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[x13]



MAD

Departments

Whoever
said time heals
all wounds was
probably never
beheaded!



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APRIL 2014

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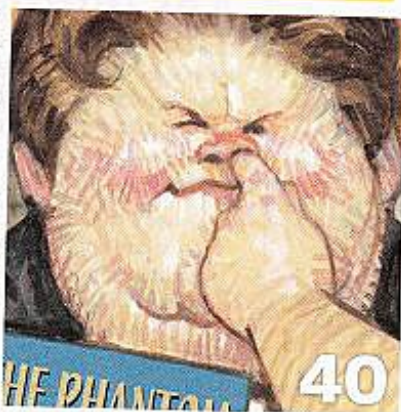
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COVER ARTIST: MARK FREDRICKSON

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Letters and Tomatoes



DUMB AND NUMBER

I have faithfully subscribed for over 35 years, so evidence of my brain damage needs no explanation. But here I am, holding my 20 Dumbest issue, #525, and my yearly question arises again. Is #1, as you read the 20, really #1, or is #1 really the start of the list? (Which would make #20 the #1 dumbest person, event or thing.) I hope you explain the order priority in next year's issue.

John Mockus • Worcester, MA

Mockus Welby, M.D. — We're sorry that we've made things so confusing for you. While we're already making plans to explain the order in the next MAD 20 — five pages of easy-to-read charts and graphs we're calling "The Mockus Pages" — we realize that you're still in the dark about the most recent MAD 20. So get out your whiteboard, because here's the answer you've been seeking: Number one is number sixteen, number four is number six, numbers eight through eleven are numbers seventeen through twenty, thirteen and fourteen are numbers fourteen and thirteen, numbers two and three are numbers seven and five, and numbers fifteen and twelve are, obviously, numbers fifteen and twelve. Hope that clears things up! —Ed.

THE QUOTABLE MAD

Recently, American Cinematheque paid tribute to John Goodman and his career. *The Hollywood Reporter* covered the Q&A session that was part of the celebration, where Goodman talked about his relationship with the Coen brothers...and their relationship with MAD.

*He played mostly small parts on the big screen during his first few years in the business — including a head football coach in *Revenge of the Nerds* (1984) — until he got a call to meet with the Coen brothers about *Raising Arizona* (1987), which he described as "the greatest audition I ever had, because it keeps paying off!" The trio hit it off immediately, he says, perhaps because they are "three mid-western wiseguys, MAD magazine readers, backsassers, guys who used to sit in the back of the room — except that Ethan's a genius, and so is Joel and I'm not."*



PRESENTS OF MIND

I have been collecting issues of MAD for approximately three years now, trying to get every single issue as soon as I can. I have tried to get all of the hundreds of issues there are. I have even gotten a few vintage issues, dating back to the 1950s. But that is not the point. This is about Christmas. I opened the last present under the tree, noticing it was heavier than usual. When I opened it, it had two one-pound "bricks" wrapped in tissue paper. I took the tissue paper off, to find that these "bricks" were stacks of MAD magazines. There were an astounding 22 issues, including 3 super specials. Now I know the true meaning of Christmas — MAD.

Declan Vasil • LaGrange Park, IL

Seaworthy Vasil — First off, you immediately lost credibility when you referred to our issues as "astounding." That's just crazy talk. However, the packaging of those issues was no coincidence! What most people don't realize is that a bundle of MAD magazines is actually much cheaper than the cost of a real brick! As a result, "bricks" of back issues (referred to in the industry as "brack issues") are often used for low-budget construction jobs. If you've ever been in a Pizza Hut, chances are it's constructed entirely out of MADs! With your recent haul, we'd say you're about 10 Christmases away from having all the raw materials you'll need to make your own cut-rate outdoor barbecue pit! Happy grilling! —Ed.

THE QUOTABLE MAD, PART 2

Not to be outdone by that upstart John Goodman, in a recent interview with *Paste*, Jason Rekulak (the publisher of Quirk Books, which put out *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies*) shared his own tale of finding success, despite being influenced by MAD.

"I was a huge collector of MAD magazine when I was a kid. I would go to flea markets and buy old ones from the sixties just to complete my collection...I was reading about The Godfather in MAD magazine before I actually watched it."



NO NUDES IS GOOD NEWS

You are the best magazine in the world. There is a used-book store in my town with old MAD magazines and every day I ask my parents to take me there. I am one of those 11-year-olds that read MAD. It is sometimes not appropriate and my mom won't let me buy them. So please start making them more like the old ones. You can still talk about awesome stuff, but you should cool it on the naked people.

Reid Kerr • Corvallis, OR

Reid is Fundamental — While we're flattered by your erroneous ranking of MAD as the world's best magazine, we're a little confused by your request that we "cool it on the naked people." Despite our copious references to farts, boogers, urination and sheep balls, we like to think of ourselves as a family publication — and aside from the occasional bare butt or exposed ankle, there's really not much skin in MAD. Even so, we like to keep our readers happy — so just to be safe, beginning in the next issue, all characters appearing in the magazine will be wearing a figure-obscuring combination of Snuggles, hip-waders and oversized straw hats. While this may not make for the sexiest magazine out there, we're looking forward to a huge surge in sales at used bookstores in Corvallis, Oregon! —Ed.

THE TOOTH HURTS

As you may or may not recall, I was a member of the MAD editorial staff in the mid-'90s. I always feared that if I stayed too long, the idiocy of Alfred E. Neuman would permanently infect me and my family, so I eventually left for Los Angeles. Alas, as my eight-year-old daughter Molly shows with her latest lost tooth, I left too late.

David Shayne • Los Angeles, CA
P.S. Just remembered a sandwich I left in my desk. Bottom drawer, under some folders. If someone could send it to me...

Low Down Dirty Shayne — We have to confess, your name rang no bells whatsoever. However, we looked through some back issues (we happened to be in a Pizza Hut) and, sure enough, your story checks out! The good news is that your daughter will outgrow that gap. On the other hand, she'll never outgrow the shame of having a former MAD employee as a father...so it's a mixed bag. —Ed.

P.S. We'd follow up on the sandwich — but we loooooong ago ceded that desk drawer to the feral cats that roam the office!



WIPE FOR PARODY

I am a big fan of your magazine and TV show. Everything I know about MAD went into the making of this letter. I hope it is horrible enough to get printed into the magazine. I have two questions for the editors (or interns) to answer. One, what is the secret to selling people expensive (and horribly useless) toilet paper? Two, do you burn or shred unprinted letters? Please at least answer the second question.

Brian Rice • Copenhagen, NY

Of Rice and Men — first, let us congratulate you on pouring your encyclopedic knowledge of MAD into a six-sentence-long letter that was indeed horrible enough to get printed in the magazine! You'll be the pride of Copenhagen! Now, on to your probing, James Lipton-esque questions: we can't answer the first, because — you guessed it — it's a secret! As to your second question: our unprinted letters get tossed into a recycling bin. If this seems kind of unexciting, consider this: all of our printed letters from people named Brian Rice are used as...well, not to give too much away, but if you reread your first question, you'll probably figure it out. Congratulations on having your letter printed! —Ed.



THE HEART OF THE MADDER

I propose to you a question, which I have no doubt will be answered in a way that makes you, me or both of us look stupid. I recently suffered a heartbreak and I have been down ever since, which is where you jerks should be helping. She has no clue I like her — what should I do? No doubt your answer will have no value to help me, but my uncle says that he met his wife in your magazine (he hasn't been the same since she died!) so I figure it can only hurt me so much as to snuff out the last of my spirits. My heart is in your hands. Your move.

Josh Bouza • Stallings, NC

Sore Bouza — What should you do? We'll tell you what you should do, you freakin' potato! Instead of sharing your romantic yearnings with a humor magazine (that's only going to mock you with some random, tuber-based insult), you should tell the girl that you like! Geez — we know our readers aren't the sharpest tools in the ocean — but come on! What's the worst she's gonna do? Say no? Laugh at you? Punch you in the face, then roll you down a hill into an open septic tank? Don't worry about it! All three of those things happened to Editor Dave Croatto when he asked a girl to the prom — and he turned out fine-ish! —Ed.

PRAISE OF OUR LIVES

Einstein, pah! Da Vinci, pah! Edison, pah! When it comes to comedic and artistic genius, "the usual gang of idiots" is where excellence lives. Yes, I said genius. MAD magazine has a gift for putting our everyday cultural and social stresses in perspective. By now all this praise should have swollen your collective heads to twice their normal size. You should then produce twice the quality we have come to expect. Now stop gloating and get crackin'.

Ron Barletta • North Plainfield, NJ

Barletta Me Outta Here — You're right — your effusive praise made our "collective heads" swell like a freshly hammered thumb! It's not often that we're compared to comedic geniuses such as Albert Einstein, Leonardo Da Vinci and Thomas Edison! After all, who could forget Einstein's hilarious theory of Brownian motion, with its side-splitting description of molecular fluctuation in pollen particles? Or Da Vinci's uproarious anatomical drawings of the human vascular system? And is there anything funnier than Edison's two-way telegraph patent application? The answer, of course, is "no" — coincidentally, the same answer to your request that we "produce twice the quality we have come to expect." Because as your buddy Einstein well knew, two times zero is still zero! —Ed.

STRIP TEASING

Several eagle-eyed readers let us know that MAD and Sergio Aragonés were mentioned in the December 16 installment of "Baldo." We appreciate the nod — yet we can't help but hope that someday, we'll get the approval from Ziggy that we so desperately crave.



Letters and Tomatoes

TAKE THIS JOB AND SHOVEL IT

Just thought you might want to know that I found a copy of the 1983 "Tootsie" MAD inside a time capsule that was buried by the members of a conference held by a bunch of famous designers and thinkers in Aspen back in 1983. Among the items found was the actual computer mouse used by Steve Jobs during his conference speech. Why this copy of MAD was included in there with all the fine art, aged wine and state of the art computer gear is of course baffling. It was found in the tube very near some lady's pink lace panties, so I'll let you draw the conclusions as you see fit. Even though my subscription ran out years ago, I still love you, so I guess that means I'm still an idiot.

Tim "Ringy" Saylor • Co-host of *Diggers*, National Geographic Channel

Saylor Moon — That's quite a find! And as for how MAD wound up in that time capsule along with a pair of panties and Steve Jobs' mouse from his speech, we think we know why. All we can say is that Jobs' presentation went VERY well that day...and he had a very specific, and very erotic way of celebrating. —Ed.



The Diggers crew, about to make a terrible discovery

GAME OF DRONES

Recently I heard on the news that the largest online retailer will be using drones to deliver their junk. Rumor has it that MAD, too, will be using a drone to deliver their magazine. Is this true? Will we be safe to go outside?

Dion Viglione • Alberta, Canada

Neon Dion — You know what they say about rumors — if they're drone-based, you just can't trust them! Unfortunately, it seems very unlikely that MAD will ever be delivered by drone. Apparently, any flying apparatus carrying MAD would automatically be classified by the Air Force as "enemy aircraft" and shot down on sight. So, if you see the scorched remains of "Planet Tad" in the middle of the street, you'll know exactly what went down. That said, it should be safe to go outside — but you should probably keep your eyes skyward and stay close to shelter, just in case. Happy strollin'! —Ed.



DUMB AND NUMBER, PT. 2

You are a good magazine. That is true. But sometimes, you do things that are absolutely idiotic. For instance, in issue #524, on page eight, in the lower left-hand corner, you made all the numbers blue except for the "five." How could you do this? Now that is the only thing I can think about. So thanks, MAD, thanks for TAKING CONTROL OF MY LIFE!

Sophie Feng • New York, NY

A Feng and a Prayer — As soon as we read your letter, we rushed to our copies of #524, and sure enough, there was a mistake in the coloring of the numbers on the lower left-hand corner of page eight. Unsurprisingly, this drove Executive Editor John Ficarra into a seething, uncontrollable rage — although he wears the same stained sweatpants to work each day, he's a stickler for detail — and he stormed down the hall and summarily fired Associate Art Director Ryan Flanders. With the shame of the "blue-black affair" hanging over his head, Flanders has had no luck in finding a new job — and we hear it's only a matter of time until he's forced to start selling vital organs to feed his family. Sure, it sounds tragic — but with mistakes like the one you helpfully pointed out, it's exactly what he deserves. So thanks, Sophie, thanks for TAKING CONTROL OF FLANDERS' LIFE! —Ed.

WILL THE CIRCLE BE MISSPOKEN

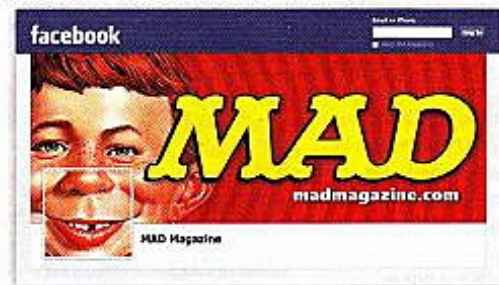
When I would read MAD magazine as a kid, my mother would say, "Fey — why are you reading this trash?" Little did she know I would come across your magazine and 40 years later get a subscription to your fantastic magazine and enjoy it as much as I did when I was a kid. Now it comes full circle — I am giving my nephew a gift subscription so his mother (my sister) can say, "Fey — why are you reading this trash?"

Adrienne Royden • New Hope, PA

Avoid the Royden — We're always happy to hear stories of MAD bringing families together, bridging generational gaps and joining the past with the present. Aside from avoiding real jobs and taking frequent pastry breaks, uniting people is our driving passion. But the warm feeling in our hearts was lessened by confusion over your family's odd use of the word "Fey." Is "Fey" a pet name? Who is this "Fey" person? Was your mother referring to the then-three-year-old Tina Fey in an act of Royden family clairvoyance? Are you a pseudonymous Tina Fey? Please explain this in your next letter — which, for our sake, we hope won't arrive until 2054. —Ed.

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Letters and Tomatoes



CLASSROOM DISMISSED

I am an 8th grade history teacher in the Los Angeles Unified School District. Enclosed is a picture of a poster that has been on the door to my classroom for the past 10 years. I think a "No Moron Zone" concept would be a natural for your magazine. In fact, if every classroom in the U.S. had such a poster on the door, it would probably help solve the crisis in education in this country!



Peter Connolly • S. Pasadena, CA

Pros and Connolly — We have just one question — why would you post a sign that prevents you from entering your own classroom? —Ed.

REGRETTING THE PICTURE

I have been thinking of writing to you for a long time. I am 94 so I decided it's now or never. You have a great artist in John Caldwell — his work is so distinctive — faces, skinny arms and legs and necks (not John — his cartoons). I can't send a picture of myself holding a MAD magazine because my Polaroid Spectra camera no longer has film available. I am a longtime subscriber, anxiously awaiting the next issue. A real little old lady, four-foot-eight.

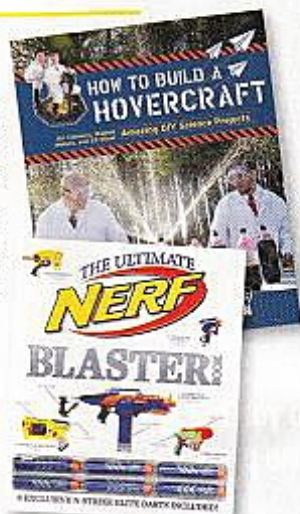
Wilma Fontes • Pico Rivera, CA

Triumph of the Wilma — No need to apologize for your lack of Polaroid film; your letter allows us to take our own mental snapshot: a tiny, white-haired woman reclines on a floral couch as the warm Pico Rivera sun filters through her parlor window. She's reading MAD #526 in a state of high excitement: not only has her letter been printed (netting her, among other goodies, *Nerf: The Ultimate Blaster Book*, which she was planning on buying anyway), but the issue features an article by her beloved John Caldwell. She places the magazine on her lap and stares blissfully into the middle distance: this is, she muses, the greatest moment in all her 94 years. Her reverie soon fades, however, when she realizes that, if this is the case, then she has led the duller life imaginable. Sorry to be the bearers of bad news, Wilma! —Ed.



READER ALERT

You had your letter printed in this issue? Sure, you may be shunned by society for your association with MAD, but on the upside, you'll get some awesome free stuff! This issue's letter-writers will be getting *How to Build a Hovercraft*, from our friends at Chronicle Books; *Pointing Fingers*, from our pals at Hasbro Inc; *NERF: The Ultimate Blaster Book* by Nathaniel Marunas, from our amigos at Powl; a Blu-ray/DVD combo set of *Bad Grandpa* from our chums at Paramount Home Media Distribution; and a copy of *Justice League: War* from our compadres at Warner Bros. Home Entertainment! What are you waiting for? Stop reading this and start writing!



MAD

MAD #527 is on sale April 22!

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The Usual Gang of Idiots

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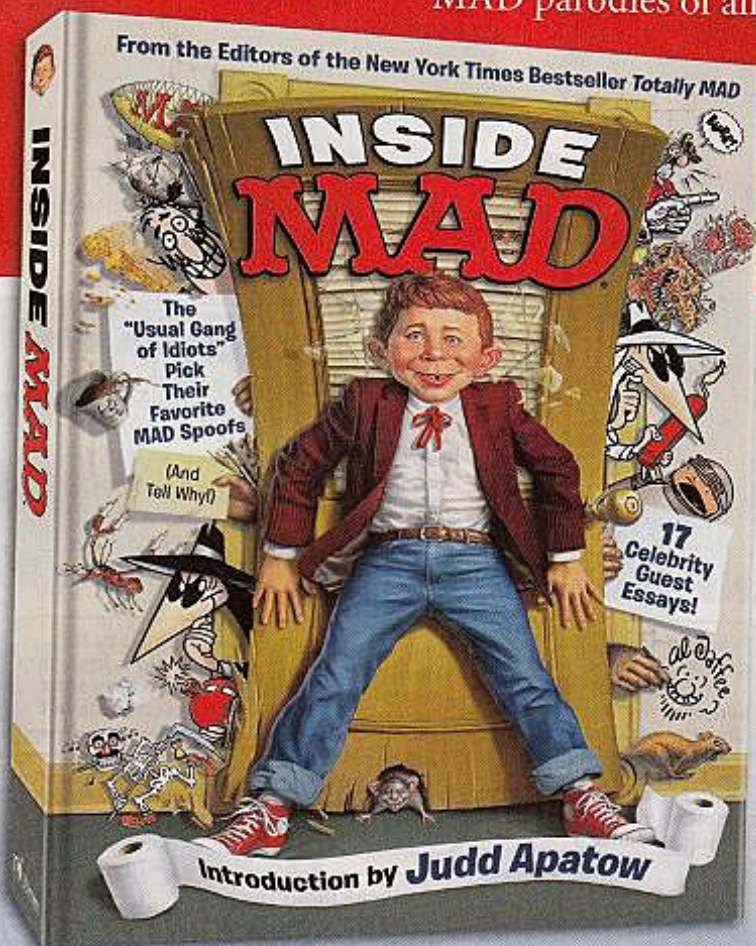
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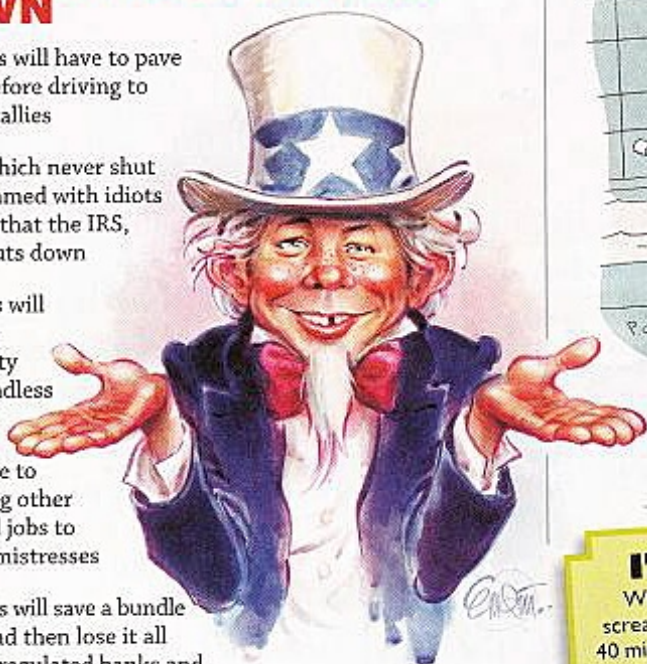
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THE FUNDALIN

The Fast 5

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF A LONG-TERM GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

- 1 Tea Party members will have to pave their own roads before driving to anti-government rallies
- 2 Federal prisons, which never shut down, will be crammed with idiots who didn't realize that the IRS, likewise, never shuts down
- 3 Your grandparents will add "not receiving their Social Security checks" to their endless list of complaints
- 4 Politicians will have to promise something other than cushy federal jobs to their cronies and mistresses
- 5 Corporate lobbyists will save a bundle in bribe money, and then lose it all by placing it in unregulated banks and an unrestrained, go-crazy stock market



Writer: Barry Liebmann
Artist: Anton Emdin

Oy Vey!



"CAN I CALL YOU BACK?
MY SOAP IS DRIFTING DANGEROUSLY
CLOSE TO MY BOAT."

Writer and Artist: P.C. Vey

IT'S BASS ACKWARDS!

Why do musicians who play a few chords in front of screaming, idolatrous fans need a 25-minute break every 40 minutes, while farm workers doing back-breaking labor maybe get one 15-minute break in an eight-hour shift?

Writer: Stan Sinberg

SURPRISINGLY MUNDANE SIDE-MISSIONS FROM GTA V

Fill your health meter by successfully logging onto the Obamacare website

Drop a friend off at the airport during rush hour

Spend 45 minutes circling the same block in downtown Los Santos trying to find a freakin' parking spot

Parallel park on a hill while holding a cup of coffee

Make it to the McDonald's drive-thru before they stop serving breakfast

Properly install an infant car seat

Return a DVD to Redbox before incurring any late fees

Successfully complete a nine-day juice cleanse

Buy gas, turning off the pump exactly when the meter hits \$30.00

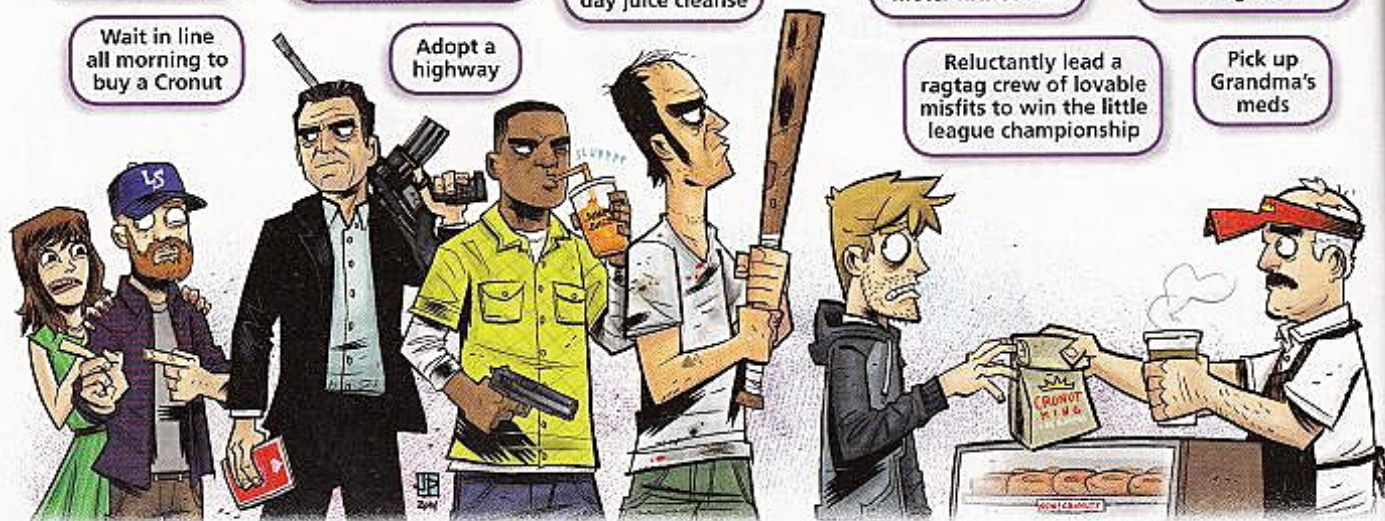
Pick your nose at a red light without being seen

Wait in line all morning to buy a Cronut

Adopt a highway

Reluctantly lead a ragtag crew of lovable misfits to win the little league championship

Pick up Grandma's meds



Writer: Kenny Keil Artist: Justin Peterson

PAGES

Other, More Politically-Correct NFL Team Names



The New York People Afflicted with Pituitary Gland Disorders



The New England Proudful Citizens Who Are In No Way Trying to Impose Their Way of Life on Others



The Tampa Bay Nautical Engineers Who Have Allegedly Taken Part in Business Transactions of a Morally Questionable Nature, Though This Claim Has Yet to Be Proven in a Court of Law



The New Orleans Non-Denominational Do-Gooders



The Oakland Sufferers of the Serious and Debilitating Disease of Kleptomania

Writer: Will Presti

IT'S BASS ACKWARDS!

As opposed to other books, which first come out in expensive hardcover editions before going softcover, how come comic books start out as cheap throw-aways and then come out again in high-priced hardcovers?

Writer: Stan Sinberg

ZOO SIGNS WE'D LOVE TO SEE



Writer: Jeff Kruse
Artist: Jack Pittman

HIGHS AND LOWS IN THE LIFE OF THE LEGO BRICK



Becomes a youthful sensation in vampire movies



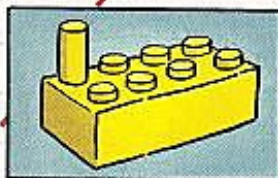
The Oscar-winning biopic



Immortalized outside Grauman's Chinese Theater



Drunk-driving arrest and subsequent scandal



Plastic surgery rumors that just wouldn't die



The embarrassing sexting selfie

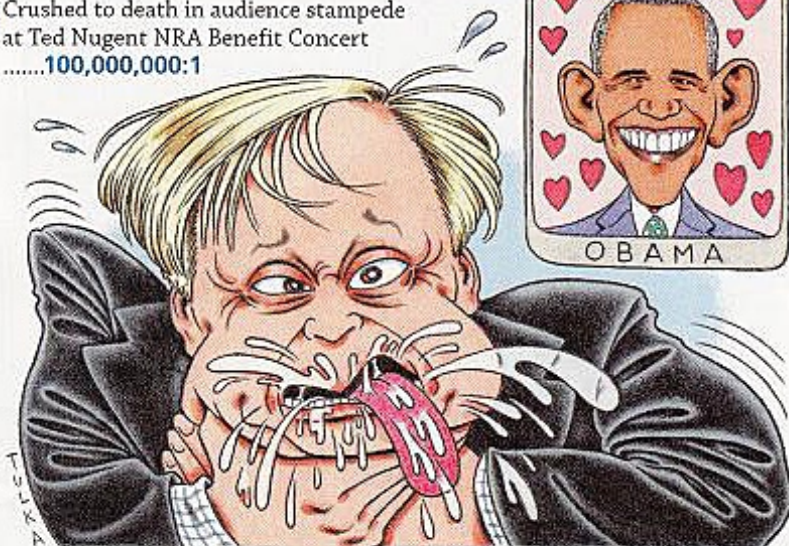
Writer: Jay Bath Artist: Chris Houghton

THE FUNDALINI PAGES

Celebrity Cause-of-Death Betting Odds

CHRIS MATTHEWS

- Chokes on own drool while praising President Obama.....1:1
- Devastating kick in the nuts from Ted Cruz.....6:1
- Self-Righteous Indignation Syndrome.....12:1
- Depression caused by having 1/10th the viewers of Greta Van Susteren....14:1
- Broken heart when favorite whipping girl Michele Bachmann leaves Congress.....18:1
- Crushed to death in audience stampede at Ted Nugent NRA Benefit Concert100,000,000:1



Artist: Rick Tulka

IT'S BASS ACKWARDS!

Why are so many Americans convinced that the government is completely inept at everything, yet when it comes to enacting elaborate conspiracies involving hundreds of people to cover up that ineptness, which is a million times harder, suddenly it's a bunch of masterminds?

Writer: Stan Simberg

Clark Can't



"I don't know. Maybe rub spinach on it?"

Writer and Artist: Todd Clark

BITTERMAN



Writer and Artist: Garth Gerhart

EMOJI WE'D LIKE TO SEE



The Wi-Fi sucks here.



Careful, the NSA is reading this!



I have trouble expressing my feelings.



Candy Crush is ruining my life!



Hey, could you delete those photos I sent you? I'm running for mayor.



I just took a picture of Alec Baldwin!



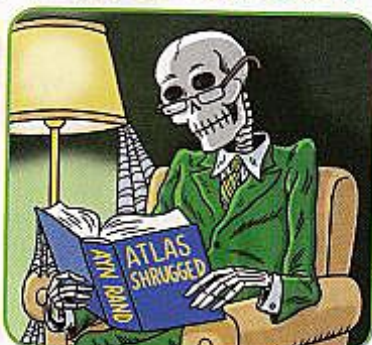
Oops, dropped my phone.

Writer: Kenny Keil
Artist: John Martz

THE WORST THINGS ABOUT CAPITALISM



People who claim that our economic system is the best in the world, which is like arguing that Michael was the most ethical of the Corleone Family.



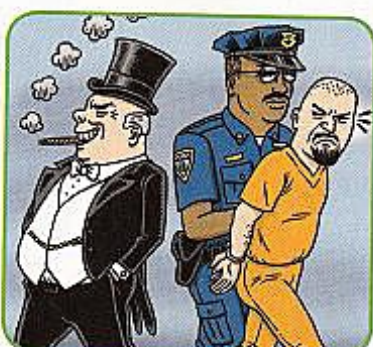
Pseudo-intellectuals who extol the works of Ayn Rand, even though it's not humanly possible to read any of her books all the way through.



The fluctuations of the stock market which, if it were a person, we'd refer to as a wimpy, hypersensitive little drama queen.



The decision to put Alexander Hamilton on the \$10 bill. Wouldn't it make more sense to honor the guy who actually won the duel?



The fact that corporations are people, yet don't have to pay for their crimes in the same way. Or, for that matter, in *any* way.

Writer: Jeff Kruse Artist: Ward Sutton



In case we haven't mentioned it in the last few decades, we don't especially care for Donald Trump.

Donnie the Douche's Tips for Success

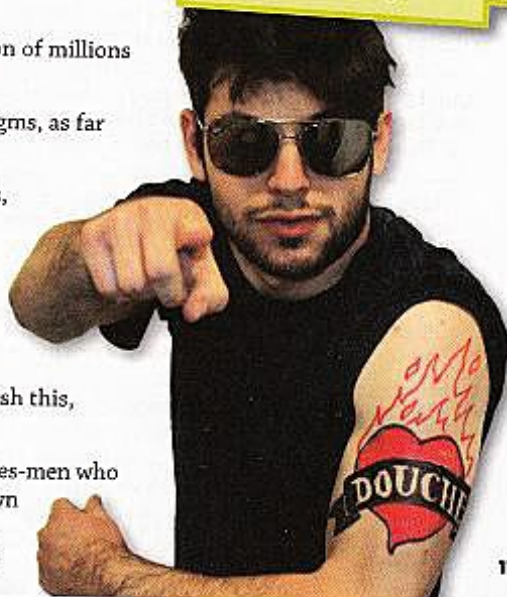
- If a task seems too difficult, don't even bother trying. Remember, if you don't try, you can't fail!
- Mavericks know that rules are made to be broken! The next time you come to a red light, see it as green.
- Always remember that one person, along with the cooperation of millions of others and a boatload of cash, can make a difference.
- Transformational modalities enumerate reintegrative paradigms, as far as anyone knows, so give them a try.
- It's been said that a man's riches are defined by his happiness, not his money. Ignore this. Riches are defined by money.
- Many business leaders look to the Bible for inspiration, and you should too. I recommend one of the many Old Testament verses where God annihilates thousands of people because they disobeyed.
- Only allow positive thoughts to enter your mind. To accomplish this, ask your doctor which antidepressant is right for you.
- Ignore naysayers, who only want to drag you down, as well as yes-men who only want to ride your coattails. In fact, when you get right down to it, you can pretty much ignore people altogether.

Writer: Jeff Kruse

IT'S BASS ACKWARDS!

How come gazillionaire celebrities get "comped" everything and receive freebie gift bags while working shlubs have to pay through the nose for the same stuff?

Writer: Stan Sinberg



THE FUNDALINI PAGES

Pull My Cheney



Writer and Artist: Tom Cheney

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS TIPS



Have several attractive mates lined up in case the disaster is a world cataclysm, and you need to repopulate the earth.

Don't be frightened by Hollywood's sensationalizing of disasters. For instance, you don't have to worry about a Sharknado unless you live near a body of water.

Have a three-week supply of hamster care supplies on hand, even if you don't currently own a hamster. You never know when you'll get one.

Stock up on Brawny paper towels for those "disasters" in the kitchen. (This joke brought to you by Georgia-Pacific, a division of Koch Industries.)

Keep a list of important phone numbers posted nearby, such as football betting hotlines, pizza delivery and phone-sex services.

Repent your sinful ways, get right with God, and maybe He won't send all these disasters to your area in the first place.

Writer: Jeff Kruse Artist: Jonathan Edwards

IT'S BASS ACKWARDS!

How come people who don't trust anything large news organizations with highly-trained journalists report, totally believe any far-fetched rumor blogged by some anonymous putz sitting in his underwear in his bedroom?

Writer: Stan Sinberg

6 Degrees of Separation Between Anyone and Anything CAN YOU LINK ANTI-VIRUS SOFTWARE TO THE LONE RANGER?

Writer: Stan Sinberg Artist: John Kerschbaum



Anti-Virus Software

protects against intruders, as does...



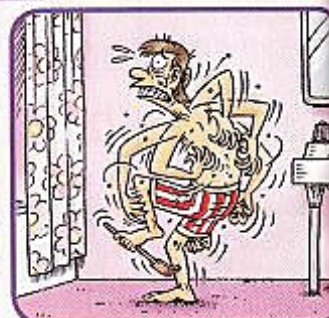
A Junkyard Dog

who barks viciously at everything that moves, as does...



Nancy Grace

who is a hostile, invasive irritant, as are...



Body Lice

which people furiously scratch, just like...



Lottery Tickets

which disappoint 99.999% of all ticket buyers, as did...



The Lone Ranger!

Take a walk on THE LIGHTER SIDE!

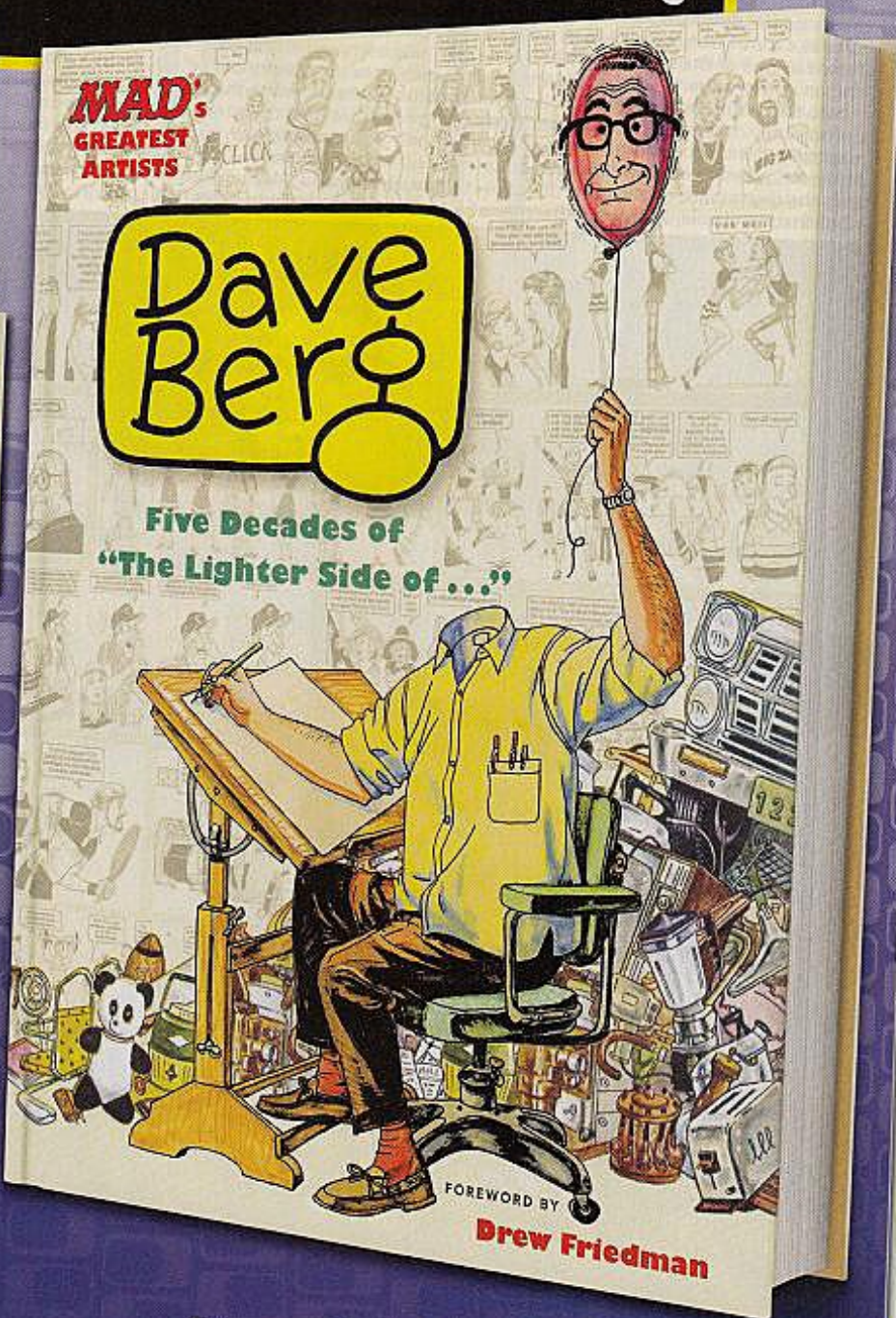


FEATURING DAVE'S GREATEST
"THE LIGHTER SIDE OF..." EPISODES!

WITH AN INTRODUCTION AND
AN EXCLUSIVE NEW PORTRAIT OF DAVE
BY DREW FRIEDMAN!

INCLUDES EARLY BERG PIECES!
FAMILY PHOTOS! A RARE INTERVIEW!

PLUS 32 MAD ARTISTS ILLUSTRATE
NEW AND CLASSIC "THE LIGHTER SIDE OF..." STRIPS!



On Sale Now!



MORE THAN ONE WAY TO SKIN A KATNISS DEPT.

First, our plucky heroine was unhappy about almost dying. Now she bitches about living! Meanwhile, the evil president complains about HER 24-7! He's going to kill her...but not just yet. The people are unhappy with the government, the government's unhappy with the people, but nothing's going to get done about it until they get to the third book. Gripe, gripe, gripe! Whine, whine, whine! Which makes this in-between placeholder movie...

THE HUNGETTI

Over the years, I've found that nothing cheers up the downtrodden and accursed quite like a visit from an oblivious woman dressed as one of the birds from *Rio* vomiting an entire value-sized bag of Skittles onto Nicki Minaj's head! I wish I were appropriately dressed for this Hunger Pains pep rally, but I just came from a funeral. And now, please welcome the paroxetine teen, the depressant adolescent, the grim-as-hell mademoiselle, Katfood Aspercreme!

Greetings to the most miserable and bedraggled district, from the second-worst! As the first co-victors in the history of the Hunger Pains, we're living proof that love conquers all! But knowing how to use a jagged tree branch to eviscerate a 14-year-old from gut to sternum helps!

Your district means a lot to us, and not just because my favorite color is cancerous gray. I wouldn't be alive if your district's two tributes hadn't each saved my above-the-title butt during the last tournament! I'll never forget my special little murder buddy, the brave, inexplicably loyal Poo! And also Whatsisface, the guy who had 25 seconds of screen time. They didn't deserve to die like that. They deserved to live full and normal lives here in your district, before dying of starvation at age 22!

And to honor their sacrifice, we are donating half of our food winnings to all of you!

Wow, a whole Cheerio!



ANGER PAINS: BEING TIRED

WRITER: DESMOND DEVLIN

ARTIST: TOM RICHMOND

Ah, to think that a love story could bloom in the middle of so much cruel, sadistic violence. It makes me want to listen to songs by Rihanna and Chris Brown!

Everyone in the crowd is holding their fingers up and whistling like the mockingjay bird. Or at least the ones who haven't already lost several fingers to gangrene! How did my little mockingjay pin become the underground symbol of hope and rebellion?

Because it's literally the only thing you own, dope! What else have you got? We can't exactly rally the people around a dull stare, or deep-tissue bruising!

Daft Punk! No!

If those filthy peons want a bird that truly symbolizes Katfood Aspercreme's future, they shouldn't pick the mockingjay. It should be the dead duck! Do they think they're dealing with Mr. Nice Tyrant here? I'm President Snarl! I once cut open my secretary of the interior just to see his interior!

Indeed, sir! Keep the population beaten down and cowering, knowing that their needs mean nothing, fearing that their standard of living will never improve in their or their children's lifetimes and choking on the fact that they're powerless to vote out the upper-class cabal that controls all wealth and privilege...hold on, I thought this was supposed to be fiction!

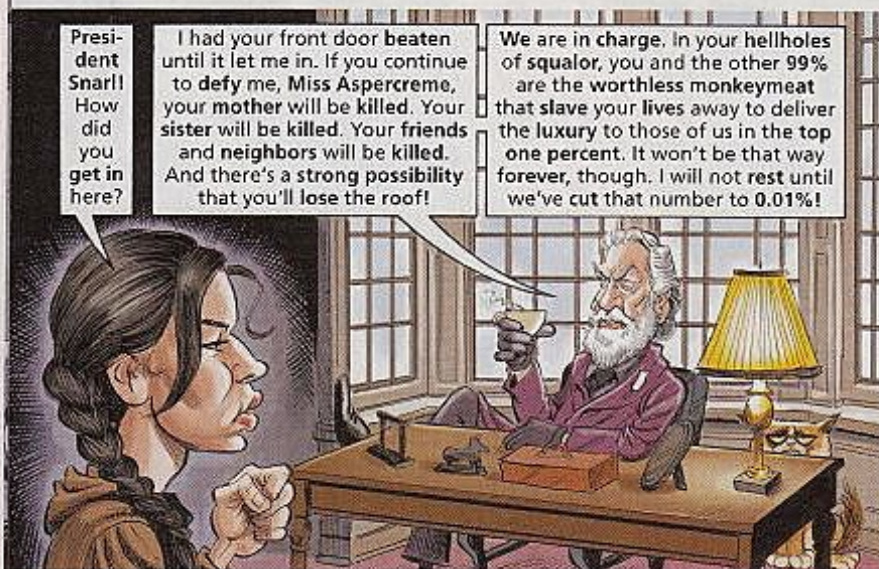




What a nightmare that tournament was! I became the first 12-year-old girl to root for her bigger sister to continue living! Then, after you won, everything changed. We got something that we never had before.

Hope?

A roof!



President Snarl! How did you get in here?

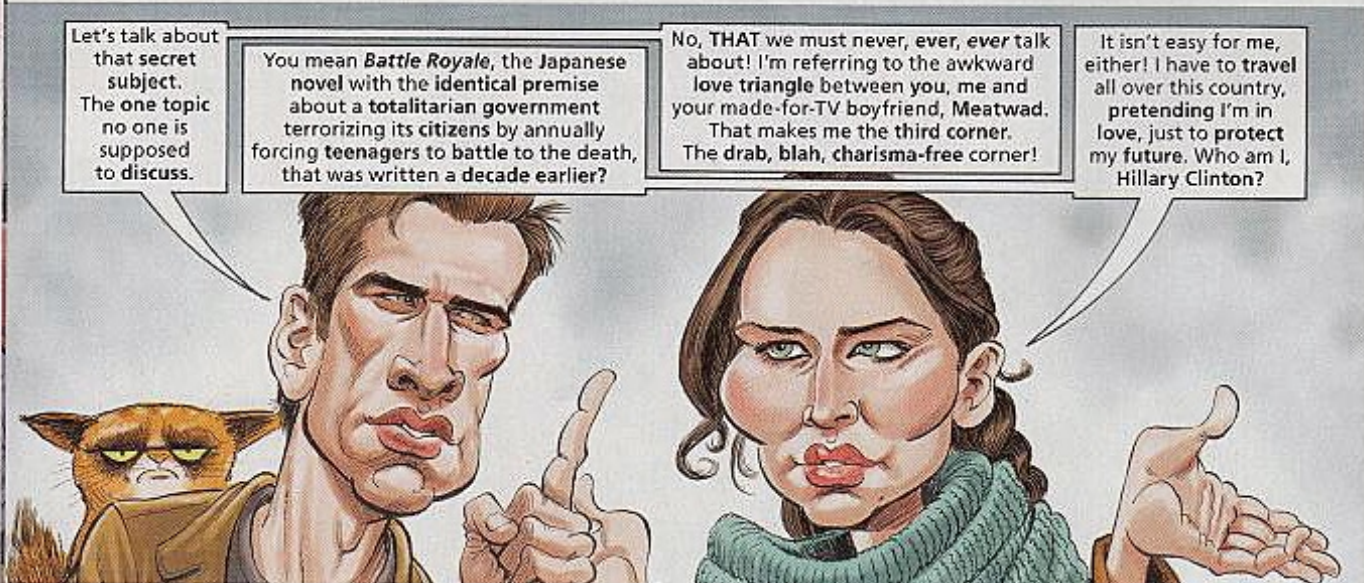
I had your front door beaten until it let me in. If you continue to defy me, Miss Aspercreme, your mother will be killed. Your sister will be killed. Your friends and neighbors will be killed. And there's a strong possibility that you'll lose the roof!

We are in charge, in your hellholes of squalor, you and the other 99% are the worthless monkeymeat that slave your lives away to deliver the luxury to those of us in the top one percent. It won't be that way forever, though. I will not rest until we've cut that number to 0.01%!



Cameras! Chaperones! And now, the evil president threatens me in my own house! I'm starting to feel as if there's nowhere I can be alone.

You're probably right!

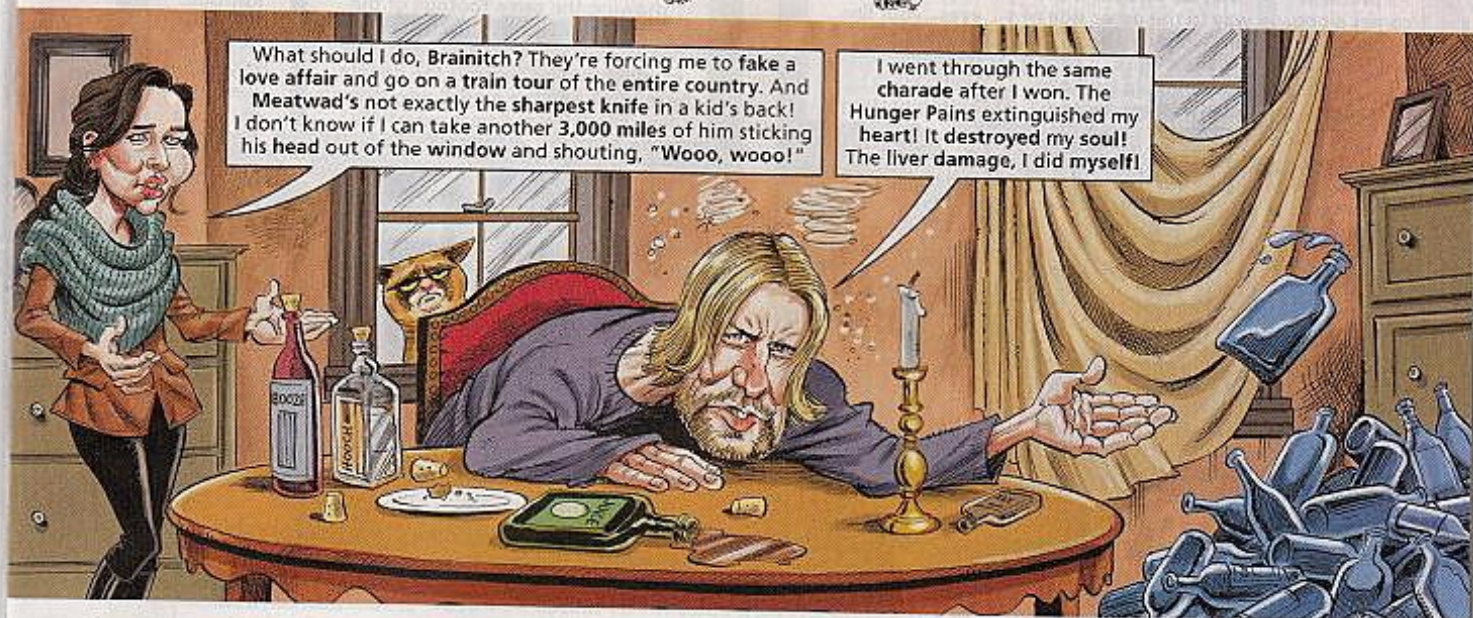


Let's talk about that secret subject. The one topic no one is supposed to discuss.

You mean *Battle Royale*, the Japanese novel with the identical premise about a totalitarian government terrorizing its citizens by annually forcing teenagers to battle to the death, that was written a decade earlier?

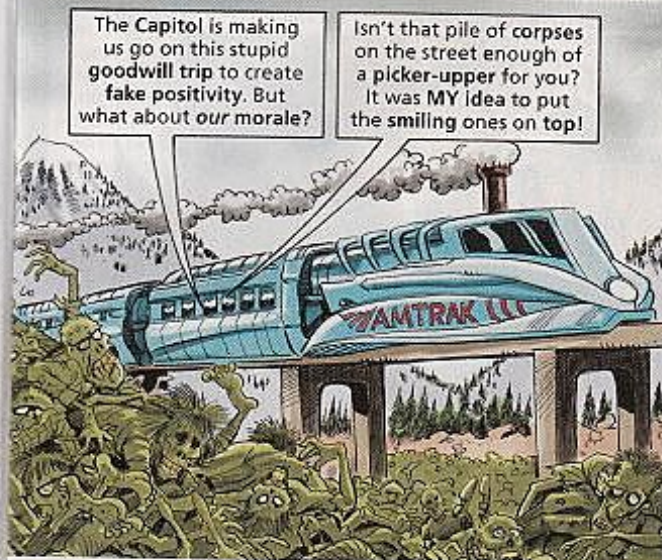
No, **THAT** we must never, ever, ever talk about! I'm referring to the awkward love triangle between you, me and your made-for-TV boyfriend, Meatwad. That makes me the third corner. The drab, blah, charisma-free corner!

It isn't easy for me, either! I have to travel all over this country, pretending I'm in love, just to protect my future. Who am I, Hillary Clinton?



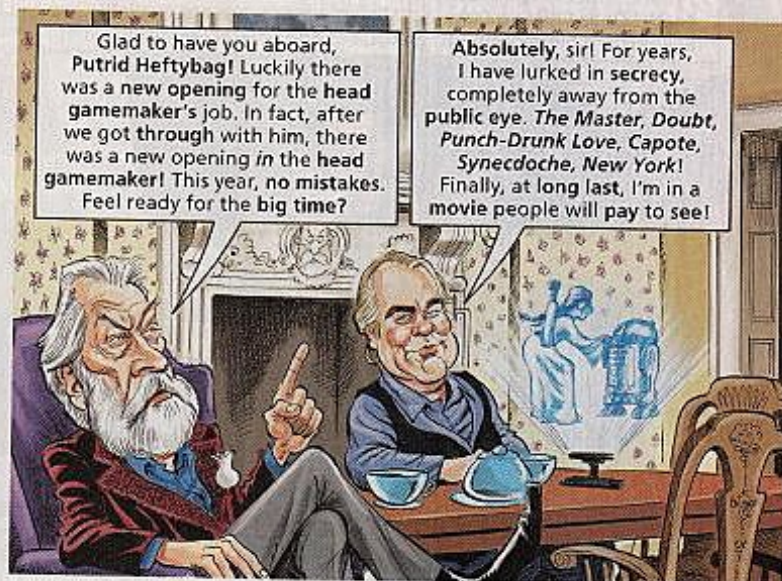
What should I do, Brainitch? They're forcing me to fake a love affair and go on a train tour of the entire country. And Meatwad's not exactly the sharpest knife in a kid's back! I don't know if I can take another 3,000 miles of him sticking his head out of the window and shouting, "Wooo, wooo!"

I went through the same charade after I won. The Hunger Pains extinguished my heart! It destroyed my soul! The liver damage, I did myself!



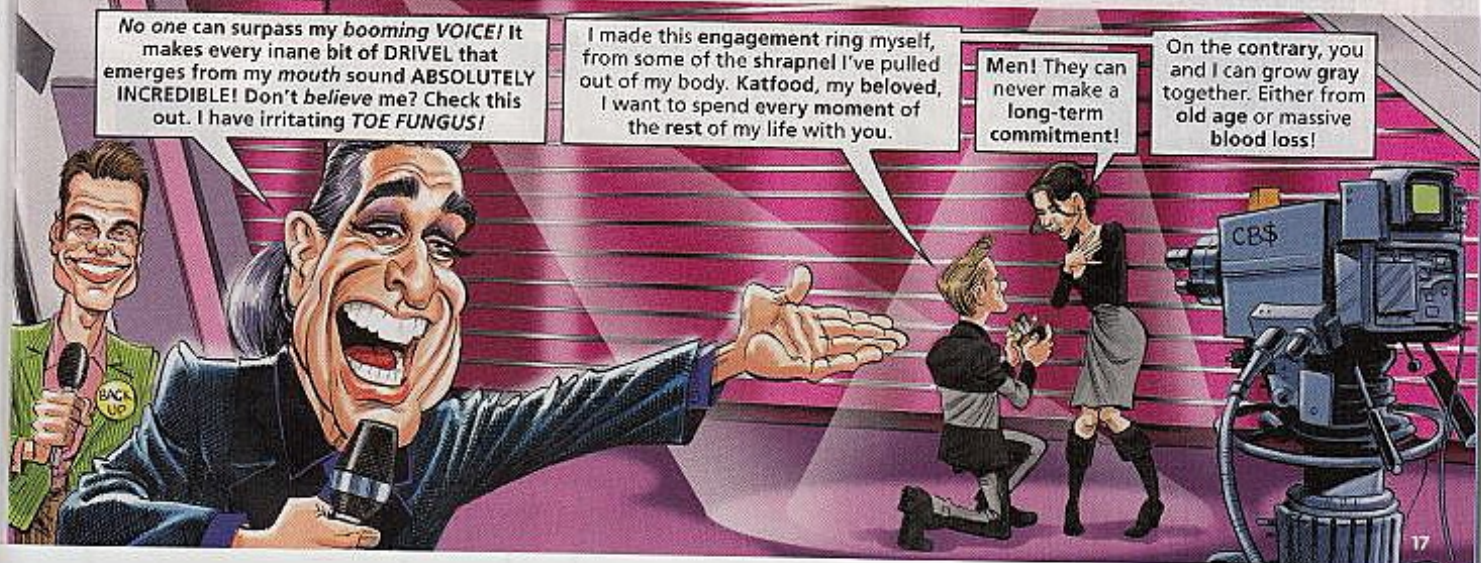
The Capitol is making us go on this stupid goodwill trip to create fake positivity. But what about *our* morale?

Isn't that pile of corpses on the street enough of a picker-upper for you? It was MY idea to put the smiling ones on top!



Glad to have you aboard, Putrid Heftybag! Luckily there was a new opening for the head gamemaker's job. In fact, after we got through with him, there was a new opening in the head gamemaker! This year, no mistakes. Feel ready for the big time?

Absolutely, sir! For years, I have lurked in secrecy, completely away from the public eye. *The Master, Doubt, Punch-Drunk Love, Capote, Synecdoche, New York!* Finally, at long last, I'm in a movie people will pay to see!

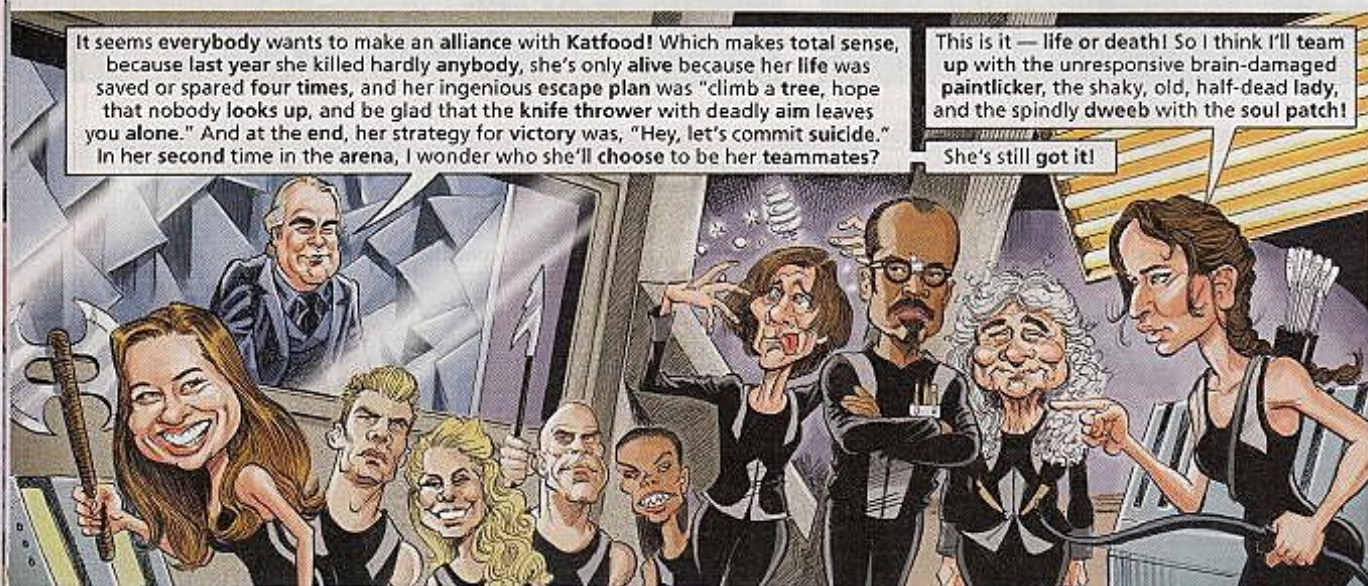
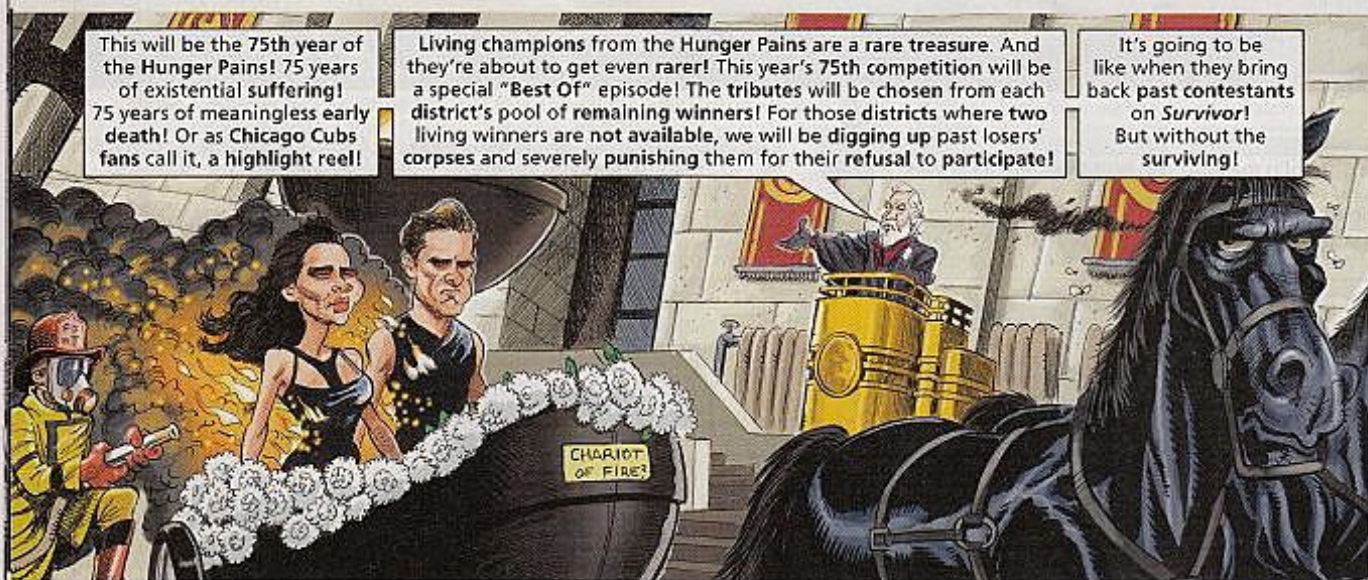
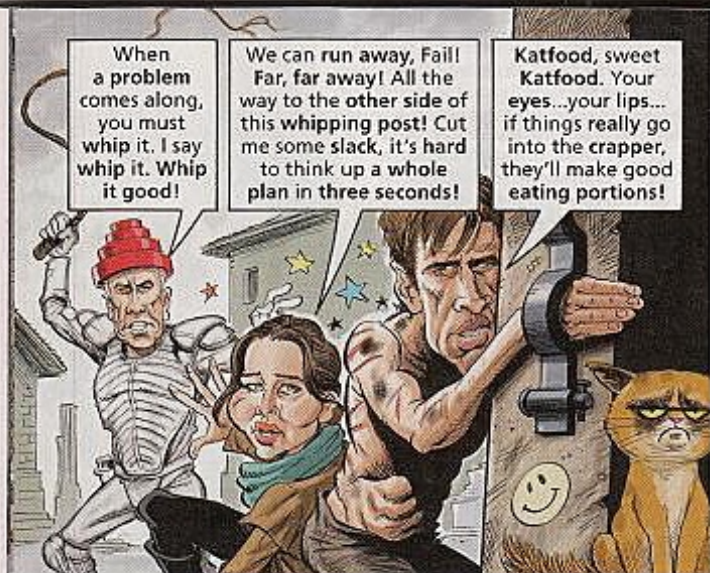


No one can surpass my booming VOICE! It makes every inane bit of DRIVEL that emerges from my mouth sound ABSOLUTELY INCREDIBLE! Don't believe me? Check this out. I have irritating TOE FUNGUS!

I made this engagement ring myself, from some of the shrapnel I've pulled out of my body. Katfood, my beloved, I want to spend every moment of the rest of my life with you.

Men! They can never make a long-term commitment!

On the contrary, you and I can grow gray together. Either from old age or massive blood loss!





Ooh, it's the girl on fire. You know, she could clear that up with a shot of penicillin!

Don't fall for her mind games!

Not a problem! I'm looking about three feet south of her mind!



The big TV show is tonight. Your new dress is specially designed with an awesome surprise.

It bursts into flames and reveals a mockingjay design?

That guess doesn't count! In case you haven't noticed, pretty much every article of clothing I design goes on fire. No, your dress comes with kneepads and a crash helmet! We all saw what happened when you tried to walk up that staircase at the Oscars!



You want heart-tugging pathos? Guess what? Katfood and I were secretly married! That's right! And not just that, but, um, she's already pregnant! With our child! She's pregnant, and this is not a hoax! Also, the child only has one leg! And a severe nut allergy!

An ingenious piece of stagecraft. It appears I've underestimated Miss Aspercreme's subtle cunning and strategic brilliance.

Wow, pregnant? I didn't even know I'd had sex!

Well, maybe not that cunning and brilliant. But she still has nice cans!



Nobody else had weapons or tools! Where did Hags get those surfboards?

She's 80 years old. Those are her breasts!

What's Fishstick up to? He's swimming in the wrong direction!

If I'm going to die, I want the cameras to catch my good side!



We're surrounded by a force field! Let me see if I can find the weak point...

Well, he found the weak point!

ZAP!!!



Hags sacrificed herself to the skin-blistering poison fog so that the rest of us have a chance to escape! How brave! How noble!

How moronic! Am I the only one who's noticed that the smoke hasn't slowed down in the slightest? This makes the scene from *Man of Steel* where Pa Kent lets the tornado kill him for no reason seem like three-dimensional chess!



The battleground arena is shaped like a clock. It's divided into twelve sections, each with its own unique danger! At five o'clock is fire! At six o'clock is poison! At seven o'clock are explosions!

And what's at eight o'clock?

Eight o'clock is Duck Dynasty! I never miss it!



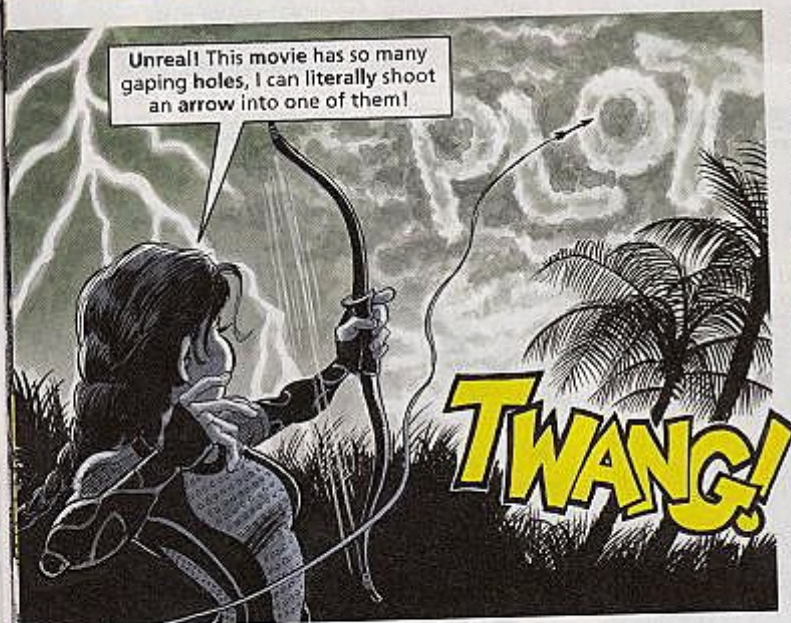
Oh, no! Spinning, spinning, spinning! And just when we'd cracked the code and mapped out the locations of each of the deadly dangers! Now we'll have to start all over again!

Can't we just use the same recognizable features like the giant tree to reorient ourselves as soon as we stop spinning?

Let's just hope the audience is too dizzy to realize that!

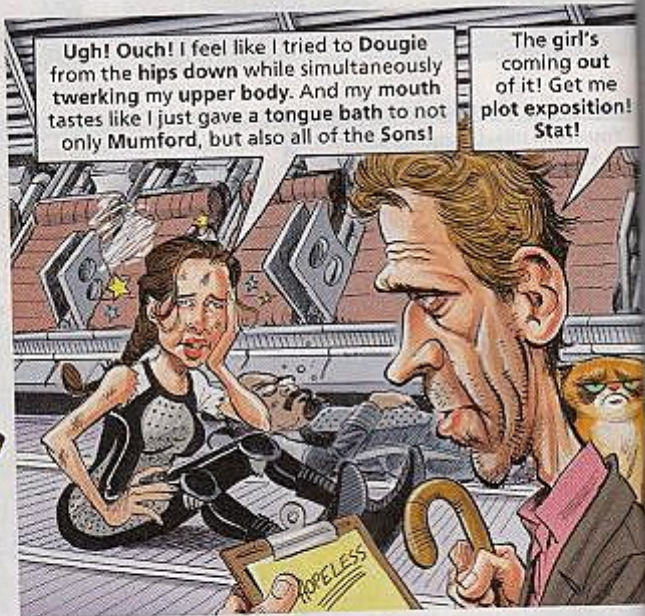


Unreal! This movie has so many gaping holes, I can literally shoot an arrow into one of them!



Ugh! Ouch! I feel like I tried to Dougie from the hips down while simultaneously twerking my upper body. And my mouth tastes like I just gave a tongue bath to not only Mumford, but also all of the Sons!

The girl's coming out of it! Get me plot exposition! Stat!

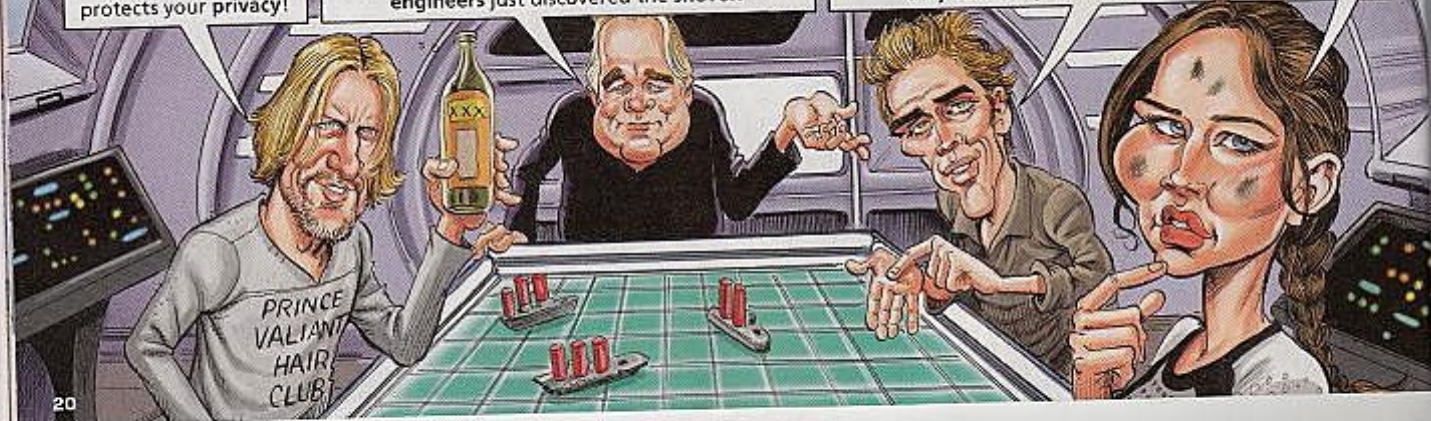


The reason we let you get poison-gassed, stabbed and exploded is because we were secretly guarding your safety! Kind of like the way Facebook protects your privacy!

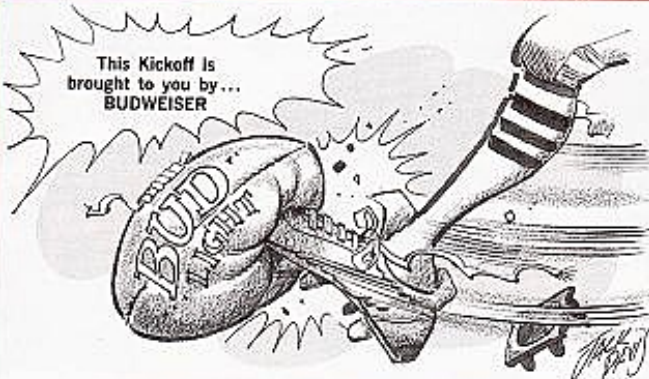
Six of you survived! We rescued three. For maximum emotional baggage, your pseudo-boo Meatwad has been captured. The revolution has begun! Our rebel hovercraft is flying to District 13 which, unlike your hometown, was never blown to bits even though it poses a huge weaponized threat to President Snarl, while your district's engineers just discovered the shovel!

The country is torn in half! Your family is torn in half! And worst of all, the third *Hunger Pains* book is going to be torn in half, so the producers can make TWO padded movies out of it! Thanks for the shameless scam, Bella, Harry Potter and Peter Jackson! Any further questions?

Yes, one. If even the rebels have super-advanced flying airships like this, why did we have to ride a train everywhere?



This Kickoff is
brought to you by...
BUDWEISER



ENDORSE OF A DIFFERENT COLOR DEPT.

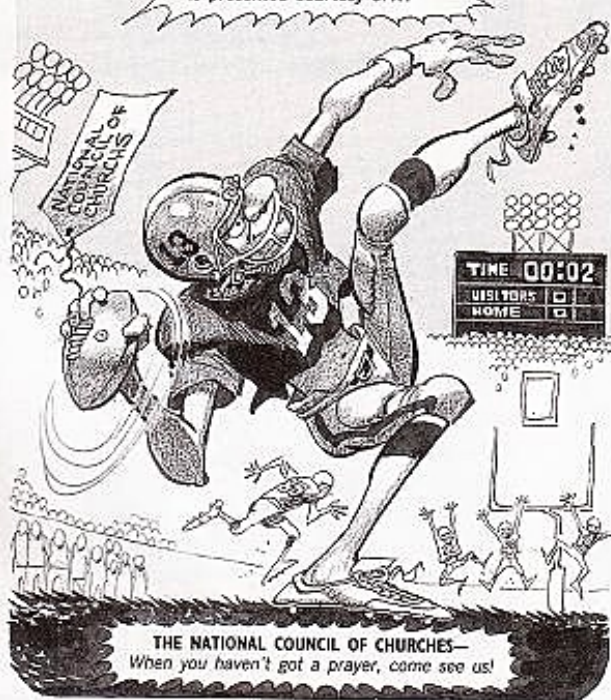
This nauseating travesty is no doubt familiar to anyone who watches sports on TV: Convinced that 90 minutes of commercials in a 3-hour sportscast isn't enough, networks and advertisers are now "encroaching" on the games themselves! So far, these annoying mini-ads have been limited to kickoffs, home runs and the like, but you can bet your Miller-Lite Beer mug that there will come a day pretty soon...

WHEN TV SPORTS ADVERTISERS decide to "SPONSOR" MORE than just KICKOFFS & HOME RUNS

ARTIST: JACK DAVIS

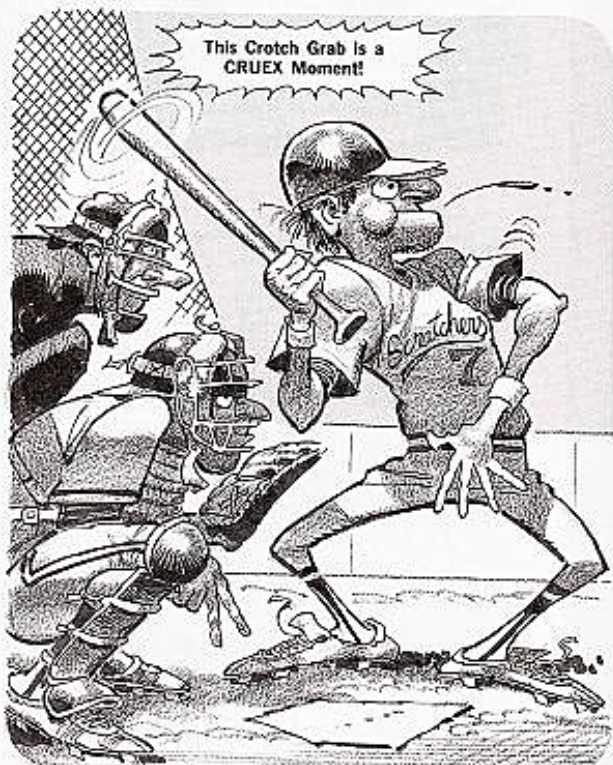
WRITER: MIKE SNIDER

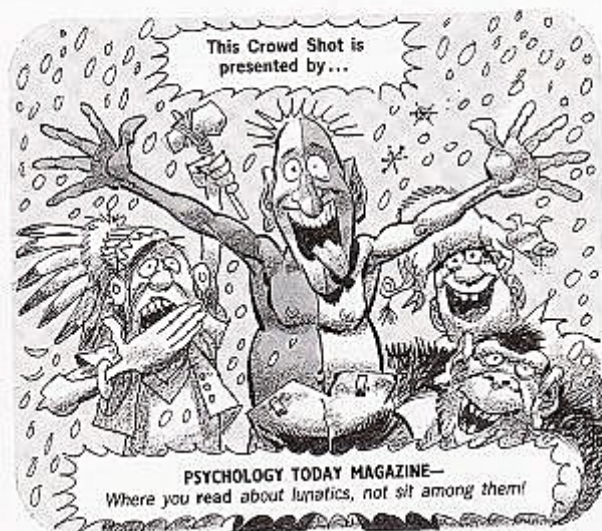
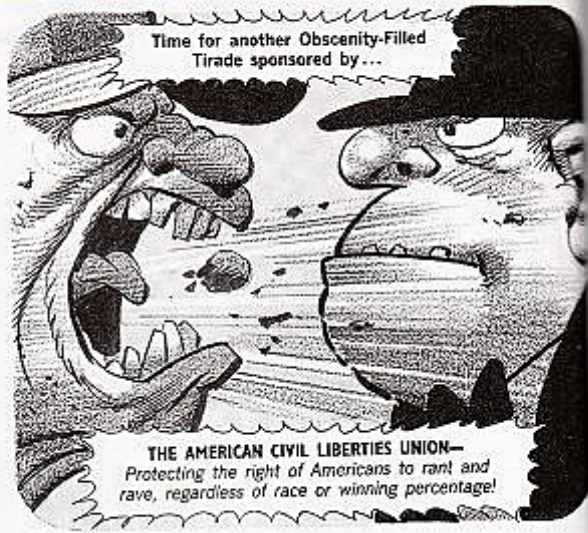
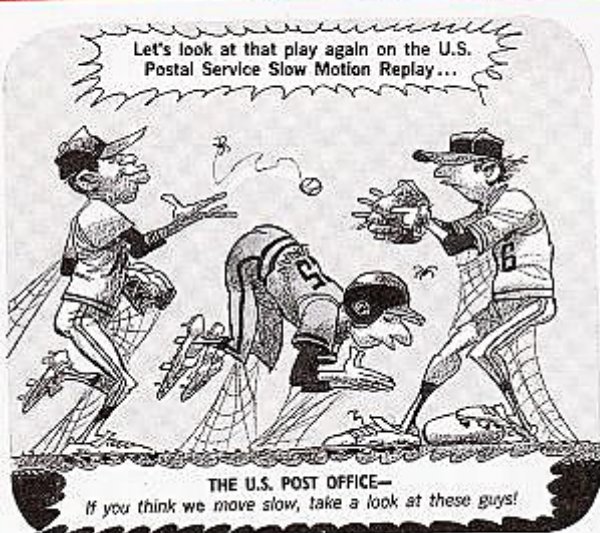
This Hail Mary Desperation Pass
is presented courtesy of...



THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES—
When you haven't got a prayer, come see us!

This Crotch Grab is a
CRUEX Moment!

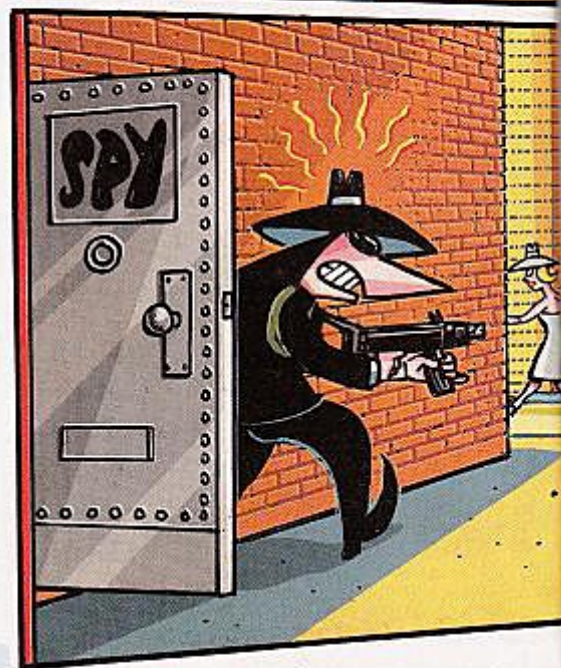


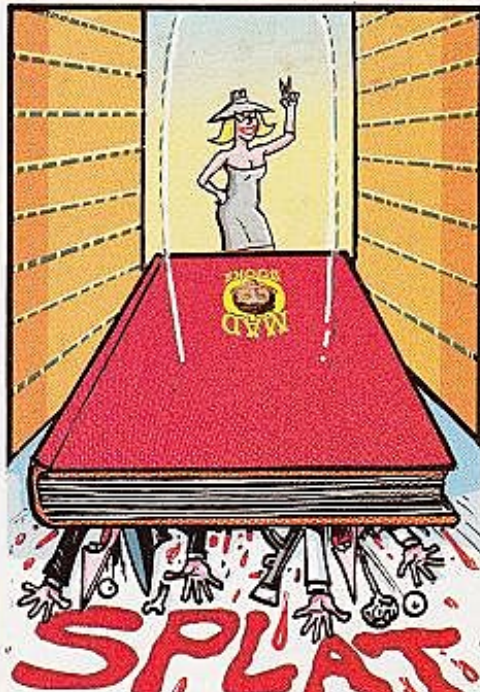
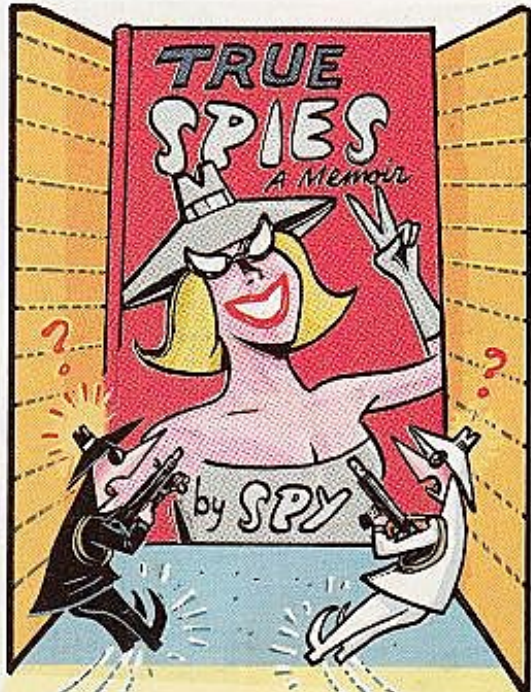
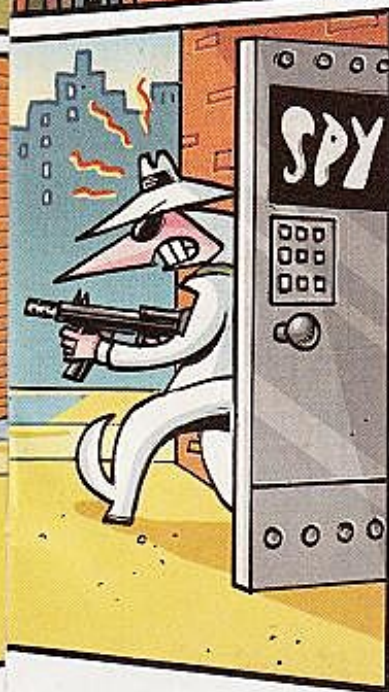
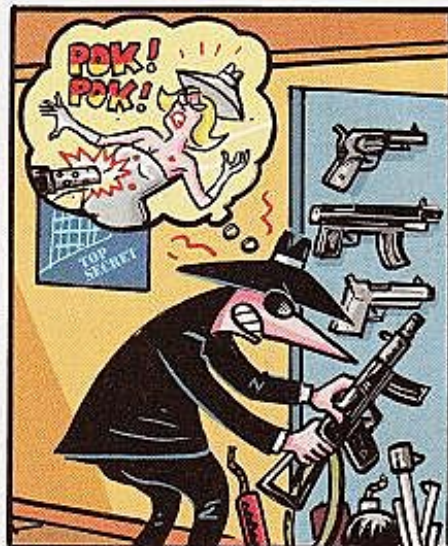






KUPER





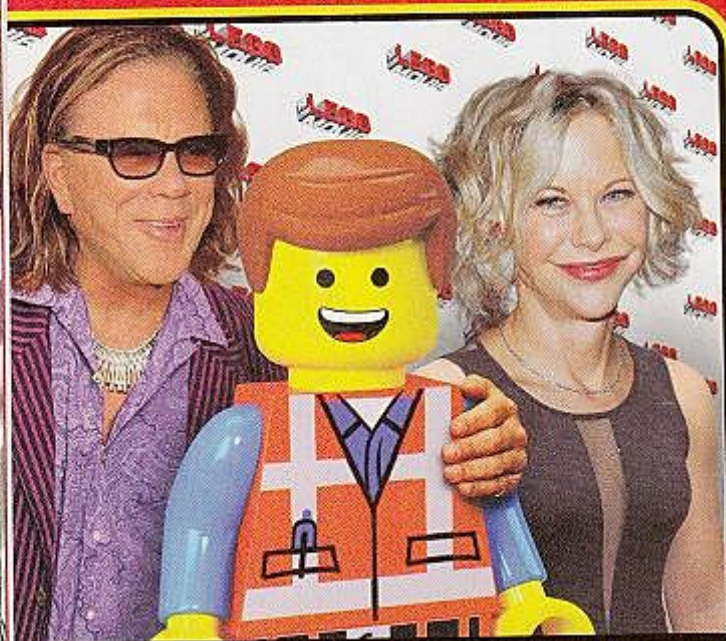
WRITER AND ARTIST:
PETER KUPER



LIGHTS, CAMERA,
ACTION FIGURE DEPT.

The LEGO Movie was an important step for the Danish toymaker in its plans for workbooks and parental foot injuries. It had never been a player in Hollywood. But now it would have been a natural fit (get it?) in Tinseltown. If you don't believe us, just check

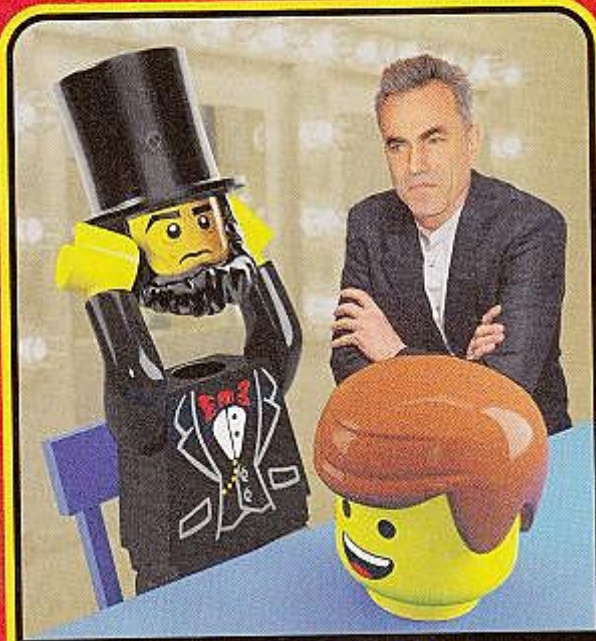
Why the **LEGO MAN** Was



Like the majority of actors in L.A., he's mostly plastic.



His lack of genitalia will give the tabloids plenty of fodder.



He's better than Daniel Day-Lewis at "becoming" his character.



He won't have a problem sitting during all the lame talk-show

domination: while LEGO has long been known for its video games, that a LEGO film has become a reality, it seems obvious that the brand out these snappy (because the pieces, uh, snap together) reasons...



Made for **HOLLYWOOD**



His fake hair is more realistic than John Travolta's.

WRITER: MIKE MORSE ARTIST: SCOTT BRICHER



Even though he's an inanimate object made from synthetic material, he still has greater emotional range than Kristen Stewart.



there with a painted-on smile interviews he'll have to do.



He'll be able to build an amazing Beverly Hills mansion for about 150 bucks.



IN BLOG WE TRUST DEPT.



PLANET TAD!!!!



Pupworthy - Inspir



http://www.planettad.com/profile/2-2014



PLANE

>> NAME: TAD >> AGE

FEBRUARY 3, 2014



Today at school, they announced plans for a **Battle of the Bands**. And I started thinking: My friend Chuck has a drum set. And our friend Kevin got a guitar for his birthday last year. Plus, there's a guy in my homeroom named Stu who's really good at playing the bass. And with me as lead singer, that's just the right number of people for a band!

(This might or might not have something to do with the fact that I heard Dana McKnight, who's a sophomore in my algebra class, say that she thinks guys in bands are really hot.)

FEBRUARY



So, at lun still takin he can play an a Farm". But I new song or b

We also talked he'd do it, on c Stu-Tones. We could ask for.

FEBRUARY 6, 2014



In algebra today, I told Dana that I'm forming a band. She said, "Cool! I didn't even know you played an instrument!" And I said, "I don't." And she said, "Oh. Well, what's your band called?" And I said, "We don't have a name yet." And she said, "Oh. Do you at least know what kind of music you'll play?" And I said, "We're going to figure that out." And she said, "Good luck with that."

She was playing it cool, but I think she was really impressed.

FEBRUARY 7, 2013



Our band had its first meeting couldn't agree on a name for tions, and I wrote them down as the

Ear Wrecktion	The
Chameleon Blinder	You
Wonder Petz	Prv
Facemelt 9000!	Th
The Fantastic 4	Wh
Snakemouse	It
	I'

FEBRUARY 9, 2014



Another bad band meeting. Everyone had different ideas on what sort of music, Stu was saying we should just cover songs that everyone already likes, could play that sounded anything like "I'm a Little Teapot" or "Old McDonald". I tol mean, Justin Bieber writes songs. How hard could it be?



ational Videos for Dogs



Gregslis - List of Guys Named Greg



ET TAD!!!!

: 5,117 DAYS >> LEAST FAVORITE SPICE: NUTMEG

7/4, 2014

ich today, Chuck and I talked to Kevin. He said he's g guitar lessons, and right now, the only songs e "I'm a Little Teapot" and "Old McDonald Had figure we've got three weeks, and he can learn a wo in that time.

d to Stu, the guy from my homeroom, who said one condition: That we call the band Stu and the told him we'd think about it. He said that's all he

i today, and it was a little rough. For starters, we the band. Everyone started throwing out sugges- ey said them:

Lunch Ladies
r Mom
ncipal Evans' Spleen
ats Terrible
y?
s so Stupid
n leaving

(It turns out, those last four weren't band names, but a conversation between Chuck and Kevin, which I didn't realize until Kevin got up and left, and Chuck had to follow him and apologize.)

sic we should play — Chuck wants us to play punk, and Kevin kept asking if there were any songs we d everyone not to worry, that I'd write a song for us. I



LATEST TWEETS



PLANET TAD @PlanetTad

1m

I don't get the phrase "you can't have your cake and eat it, too". Of course you can. You just need to buy two cakes.



PLANET TAD @PlanetTad

45m

The combination of breakfast and lunch shouldn't be called "brunch". That word has almost none of "breakfast" in it! It should be breakfunch.



PLANET TAD @PlanetTad

3h

I don't know why beards stop where they do. Why aren't men's entire faces covered with hair? That'd be awesome.



PLANET TAD @PlanetTad

7h

I don't understand why Captain America is still Captain America. Shouldn't he at least be Major America by now?



PLANET TAD @PlanetTad

9h

Is there a less badass superhero name than Robin? "I know! I'll name myself after a pretty, harmless bird that's also

FEBRUARY 10, 2014



Writing songs is incredibly hard, it turns out. I just spent the whole night trying. It started out seeming easy — I thought of a melody right away, and started singing. My sister Sophie came by as I was humming the melody, and said, "Why are you humming a One Direction song." And she said, "Yes you are. That's 'One Thing'." I realized she was right.

It turns out, pretty much any melody I can think of, I can only think of because I heard it somewhere else. Anytime I'd think of a new one, I would go and hum it for Sophie and she'd tell me what it was. So far tonight, I've come up with the melodies for "Blurred Lines" by Robin Thicke, "Hot and Cold" by Katy Perry, "Gangnam Style" by PSY, "Call Me Maybe", and that song from the Oreo commercial about how nice it would be to give an Oreo to a werewolf.

Anyway, I just finally came up with one where Sophie said, "Yep, I don't know that one! I think that's yours!" So now, finally, I'm going to start on the lyrics!

FEBRUARY 10, 2014



Aw, crap. My mom just came by my room and heard me humming my new melody. She poked her head in and said, "Awwwww! You're humming Billy Joel! I used to play 'Piano Man' for you all the time when you were in diapers, and you loved it!"

FEBRUARY 11, 2014



Well, it took me more time to think of a new melody — at least none of them said they'd heard it before. "Wait, that was it?" I asked. "I'll rush the lyrics a little bit."

FEBRUARY 11, 2014



Bad news. The guys in the band hate my song. After I finished singing it for them, they said, "You'd fallen in a well and were calling for help." And I said, "In a good way?" And then Kevin asked, "Why would you write a song called 'Dana'?" And I said, "No reason. It rhymes with Dana, right?" And I said, "Well, 'painter' and 'strainer' and 'insaner' sound like Dana. And the last one isn't even a word." And Kevin said, "I'm also not sure why you all good points, and I'd get back to work."

FEBRUARY 12, 2014



So, today all the guys came over again, and I told them I was working on a new draft of the song. But before I could even ask them if it'd be too weird to rhyme 'Dana' with 'retainer', Kevin interrupted to me to say, "Um, look, Tad. We've got two things we wanted to talk about: First, we've been working on something on our own." And Chuck said, "Yeah. We think it's pretty good. Stu came up with it."

And then they played what they've been working on. It was a fast, punk cover of "I'm a Little Teapot", and it sounded kind of awesome. After it was over, I said, "That's great! What do you need me to do?" And Kevin said, "That's the second thing we wanted to talk about."

Kevin and the other guys explained to me that they didn't need a fourth member in their band. And I said, "I can't believe this! This was all my idea in the first place! Now you're firing me?" And Kevin said, "No! We came up with another idea. You can be our manager." And I said, "What does a manager do?" And Kevin says, "He gets to tell Dana he's our manager." I like the way Kevin thinks sometimes.

FEBRUARY 13, 2014



Well, I told Dana that I was working on a new draft of the song. "That's great!" she said. "Really? You're working on a new draft?" "Polka-Teddy plays like a teapot."

So all in all, they did what I wanted.

First, I'm not in front of the band.

But second, Dana. Be a manager. Be trying to be pretentious.

ing to write a song, and I haven't gotten very far. I'm trying to come up with words for it. Then my little brother said, "What about that **One Direction** song?" I said, "I'm not sure, but it's like, their biggest hit." And once she pointed it



14

ist of the night, but I think I came up with an original, when I hummed it for my parents and my sister, heard it before. (Actually, my dad's exact words I thought you were clearing your throat.") I had to but all in all, I think it turned out pretty well.

n, Chuck said, "Um. The music sounded sort of like
d he said, "No."

n." And he said, "Because you do realize that nothing of rhymed, right?" And Stu said, "None of those compared her to a strainer." I told them they were

FEBRUARY 14, 2014

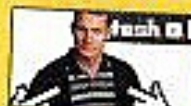
Well, today was the Battle of the Bands, and we
and Stu and the Stu-Tones did great! Afterward,
and that I was the band's manager, and she said,
cool! I'm also a band manager." And I said,
? Which band was yours?" And she said, "The
ones. Your band beat them. My boyfriend Dale
and accordion. I love polka music, don't you?"

all, I'm kind of glad things worked out the way

I glad I didn't wind up singing a song to Dana in her boyfriend.

nd, I'm glad I didn't wind up going out with
cause I think the only thing more difficult than
come up with a rhyme for her first name would
ding to enjoy polka music.

FAVORITE SITES



Tosh.0.1 – With Software Upgrade



Cats That Look Like Zooey Deschanel



Quiz: Candy Bar or Superhero Name?



Buzzfeed: 21 Must-Read Lists, Expressed as One Chart

LIKES



Ice Cream



Ice Cube



Ice Age

 **DISLIKES**



Ice Skating



Ice Fishing



Vanilla Ice

 **PLACES**

Tad visited:

- ✦ Tad's House
- ✦ Kevin's House
- ✦ Lakeville High School
- ✦ Middle Earth (via ticket to "The Hobbit 2")

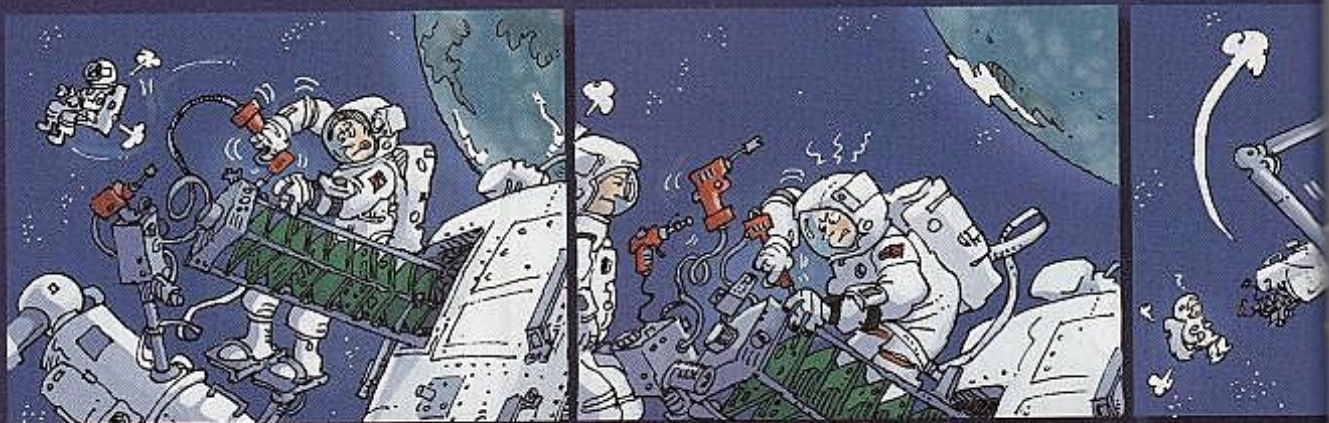




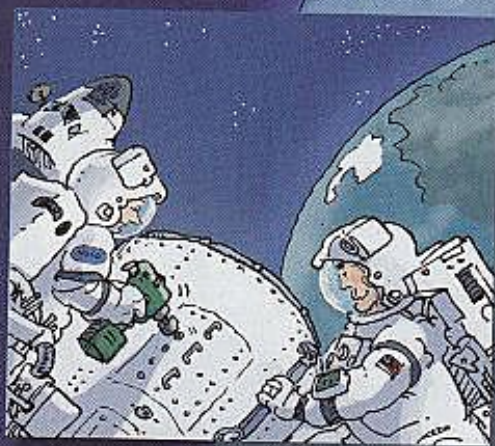
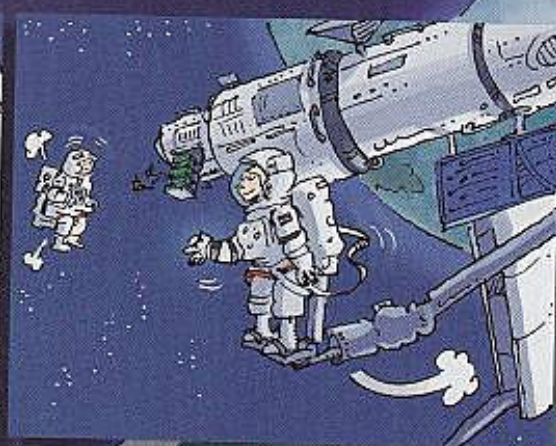
SERGE-IN GENERAL DEPT.

SERGIO ARAGONES
PRESENTS

A MAD LOOK AT

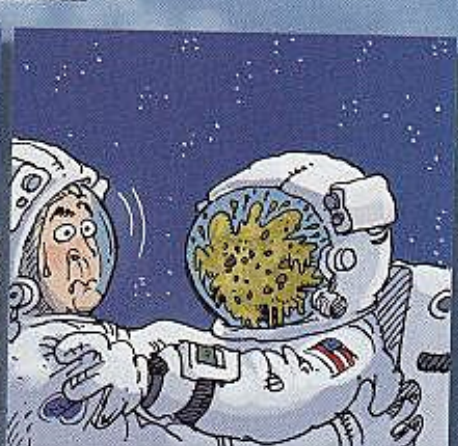
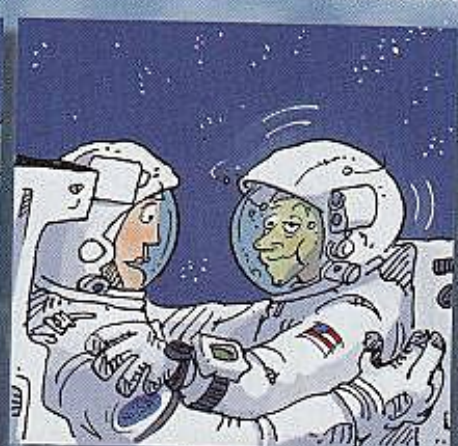
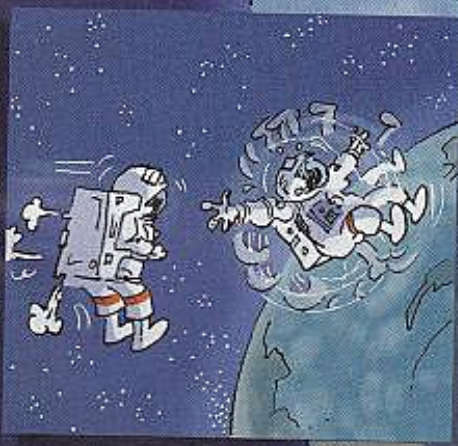


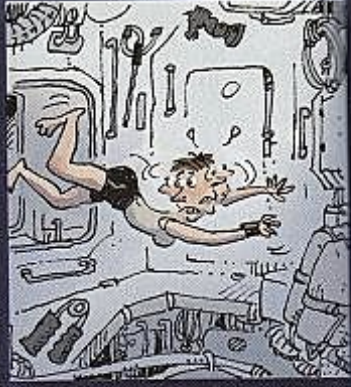
GRAVITY

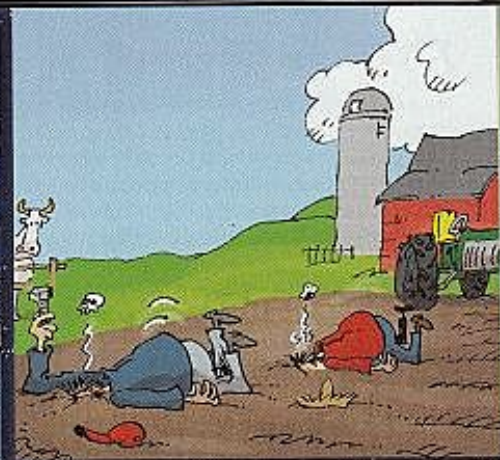
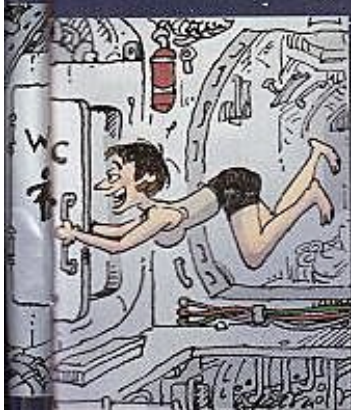


WRITER AND ARTIST: SERGIO ARAGONÉS

COLORIST: JIM CAMPBELL









A PORTION CLINIC DEPT.

There are few things in life that Americans enjoy more than an all-you-can-eat buffet. There's just something about a morbidly obese population lining up to pile their plates with a steam-heated culinary hodgepodge of lasagna, barbecued buffalo wings, French toast and shrimp cocktail. (Well, *maybe* shrimp cocktail, if you're one of the first two in line.) But before you go hog wild at one of these eating orgies, you should know that there are certain rules that must be obeyed or chaos could ensue, resulting in the loss of life or worse — that tray of pulled pork in honey sauce you waited 10 minutes in line for!

If you're about to sneeze or cough, cover your mouth.

Use a piece of bread, a pancake or a slice of ham. When putting it back on the buffet table, keep things sanitary by placing it at the back.

Don't cut the line!

Merely start a new line moving in the opposite direction.

Popular buffet items like shrimp are known to run out quickly.

So always grab as many as you can before the greedy, thoughtless hoarders get to them.

Place your used dishes and cutlery on one of the huge trays provided.

Or, better yet, snag an empty one and you'll have yourself a mega-dish to pile food on all evening!

Do not "double dip."

If you take a carrot, dip it in sauce and take a bite, do not dip it in the sauce again! Instead, dip your finger in the sauce and put it on the carrot.

Always use tongs.

They're perfect for whacking a hand that's about to take the last few chicken wings or something else that's about to run out.

MAD'S GUIDE TO BUFFET



PROPER ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT ETIQUETTE

WRITER: DICK DEBARTOLO

ARTIST: TOM BUNK

RESTROOMS →

Don't hold up the line by carefully selecting from the meat and fish choices.

Take them all and decide what you want to eat when you're back at your table.

Use your assigned seating place card.

Take it and put it on the dessert table. Then you can sit there and enjoy all the desserts without having to walk back and forth to your actual table.

Don't load up your plate so high that food falls off.

Take several plates and load them all medium high.

It is very improper to use the ladle from one type of salad dressing to take a different type of salad dressing.

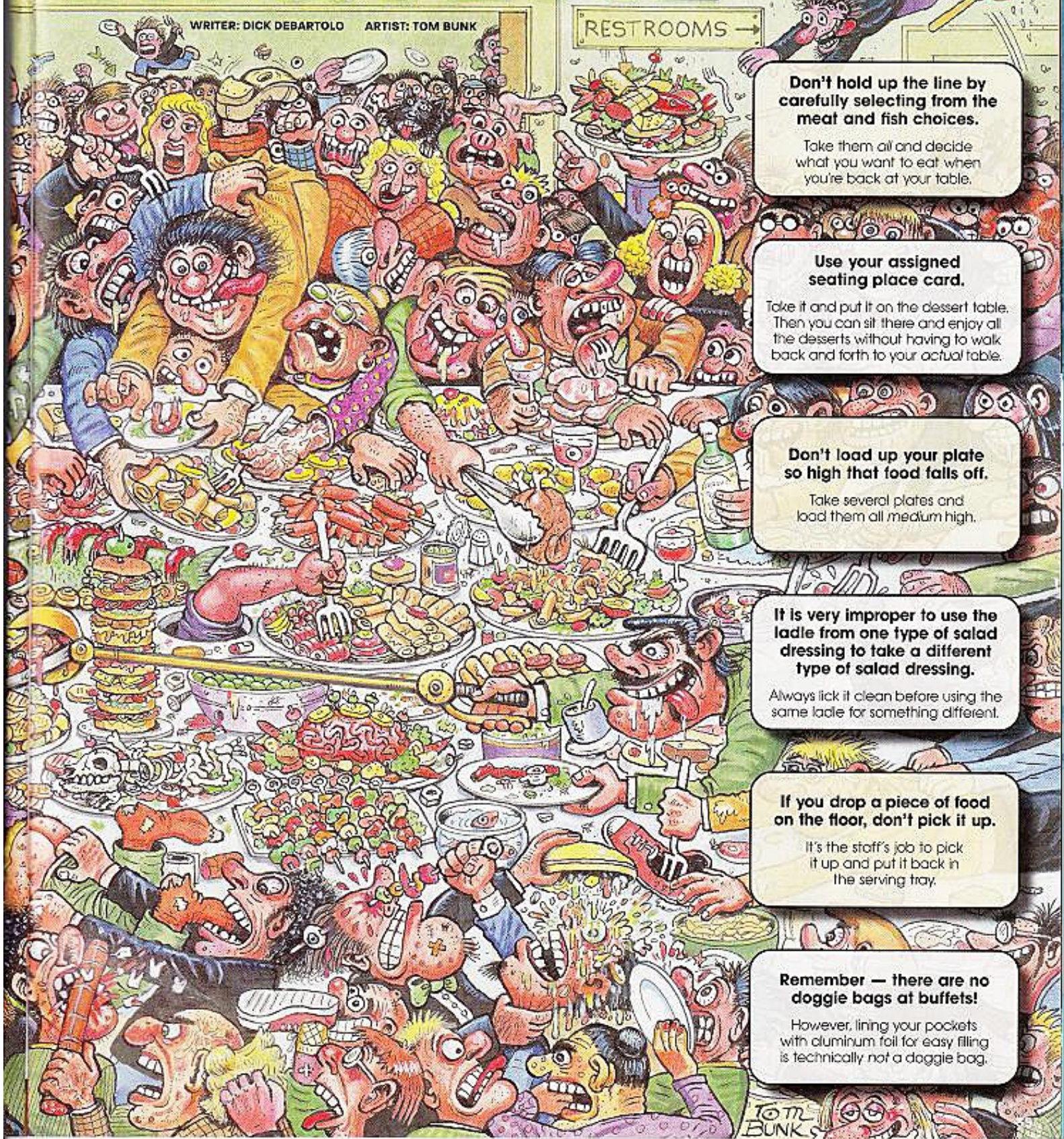
Always lick it clean before using the same ladle for something different.

If you drop a piece of food on the floor, don't pick it up.

It's the staff's job to pick it up and put it back in the serving tray.

Remember — there are no doggie bags at buffets!

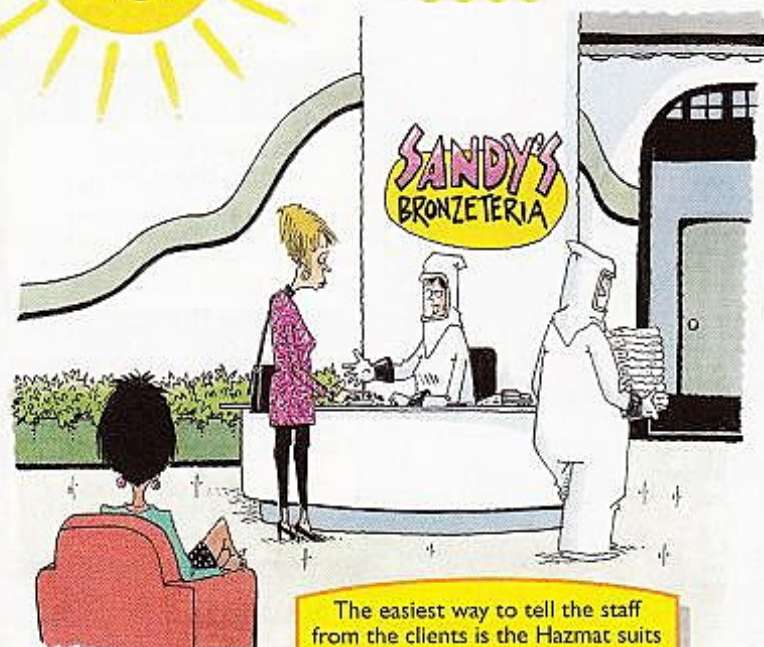
However, lining your pockets with aluminum foil for easy filling is technically not a doggie bag.



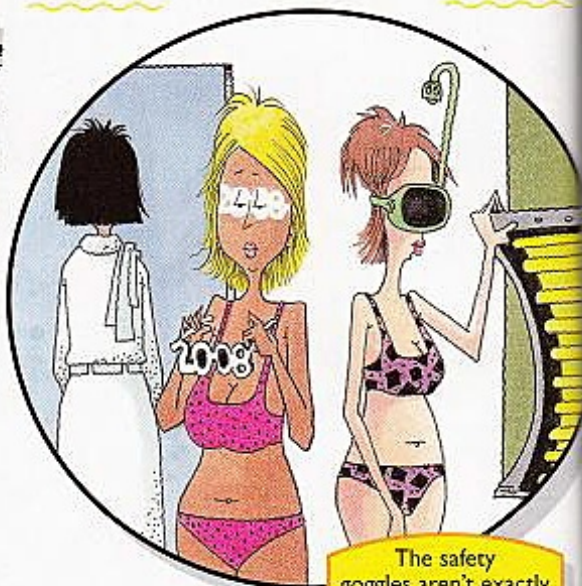


Getting a great tan used to involve spending a week or two in some cheesy beach town — and if the weather held out and the stale taffy didn't do you in, you might end up with a moderately attractive tan. But today, thanks to a preponderance of tanning salons, you only need to spend an hour or two in some cheesy mall — and if the tanning bed is functioning properly and the spray nozzles aren't clogged, you might end up with a moderately attractive tan. However, before you step into that sleazy little enterprise that's sandwiched between the 24-hour locksmith and the Chinese dollar store, you might want to keep an eye out for these

Warning Signs of a CRAPPY TANNING SALON

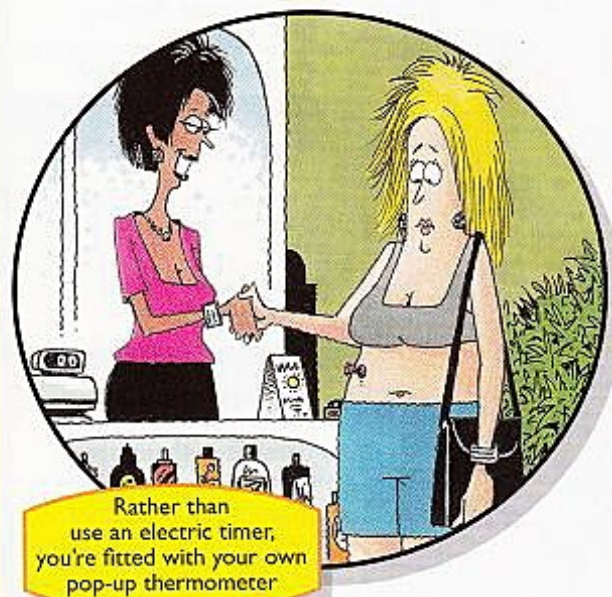


The easiest way to tell the staff from the clients is the Hazmat suits



The safety goggles aren't exactly state-of-the-art

WRITER AND ARTIST:
JOHN CALDWELL



Rather than use an electric timer, you're fitted with your own pop-up thermometer



Instead of spray tans, they offer two guys with rollers

Rules
 • No
 • No
 • No
 • No

SPA
 PEE-DAH

OH, YEAH... I GOT
 HERE JUST IN TIME!
 HERE'S ONE THAT'S
 ABOUT TO GO!

You experience frequent incidents
 of inappropriate bulb replacement



They play a
 little fast and loose with
 the definition of the
 word "bronze"

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 RESPONSIBLE
 for
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 undergarments

THIS BOOTH HAS GONE
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 A MELANOMA
 RELATED INCIDENT

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Disturbing
 signage abounds

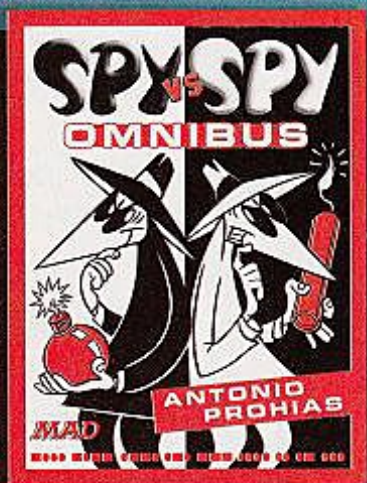


Blatant instances
 of false advertising



Tanning bedbugs

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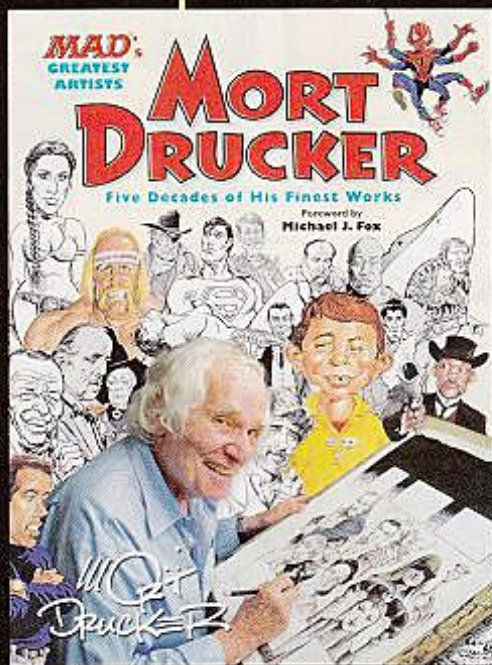
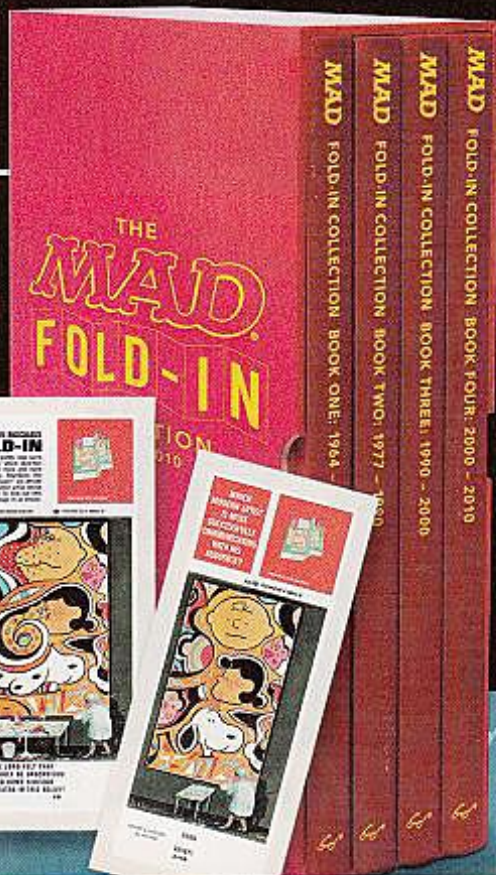


MAD'S GREATEST ARTISTS: MORT DRUCKER

Includes many of Mort's greatest
movie satires plus essays by
Michael J. Fox, Steven Spielberg,
J.J. Abrams, and others! Also a
classic, vintage pull-out poster!

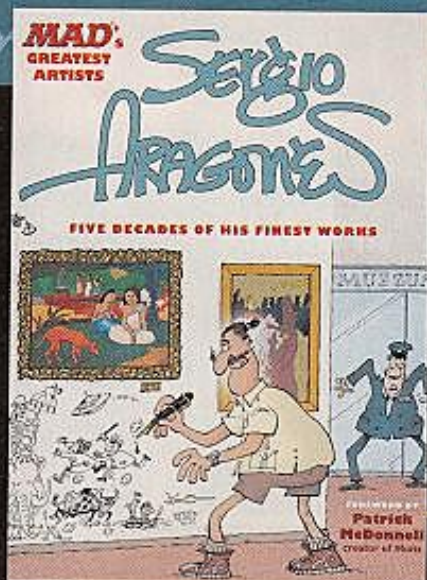
PLANET TAD

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the head writer of
The Daily Show
with Jon Stewart



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TOTALLY MAD

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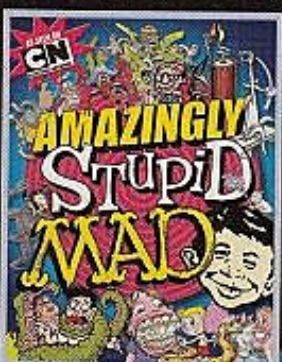
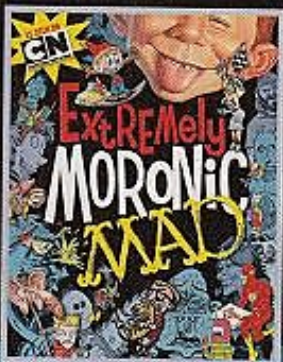
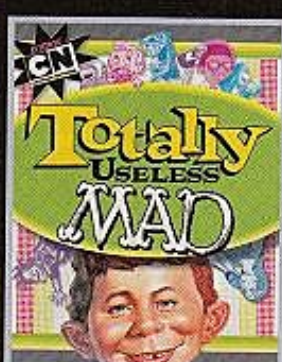
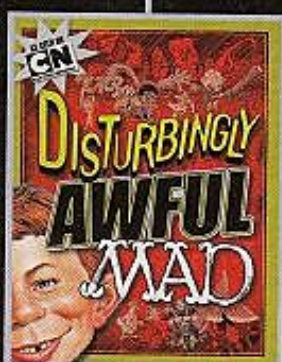
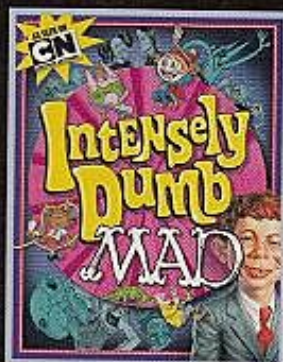
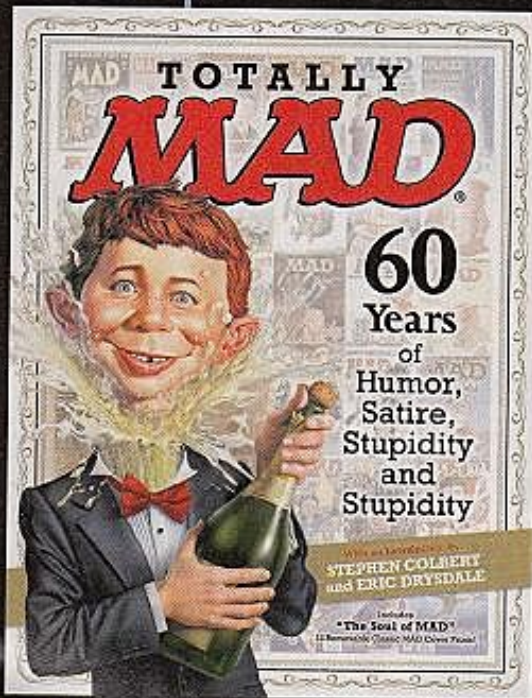


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READING DISORDERS DEPT.

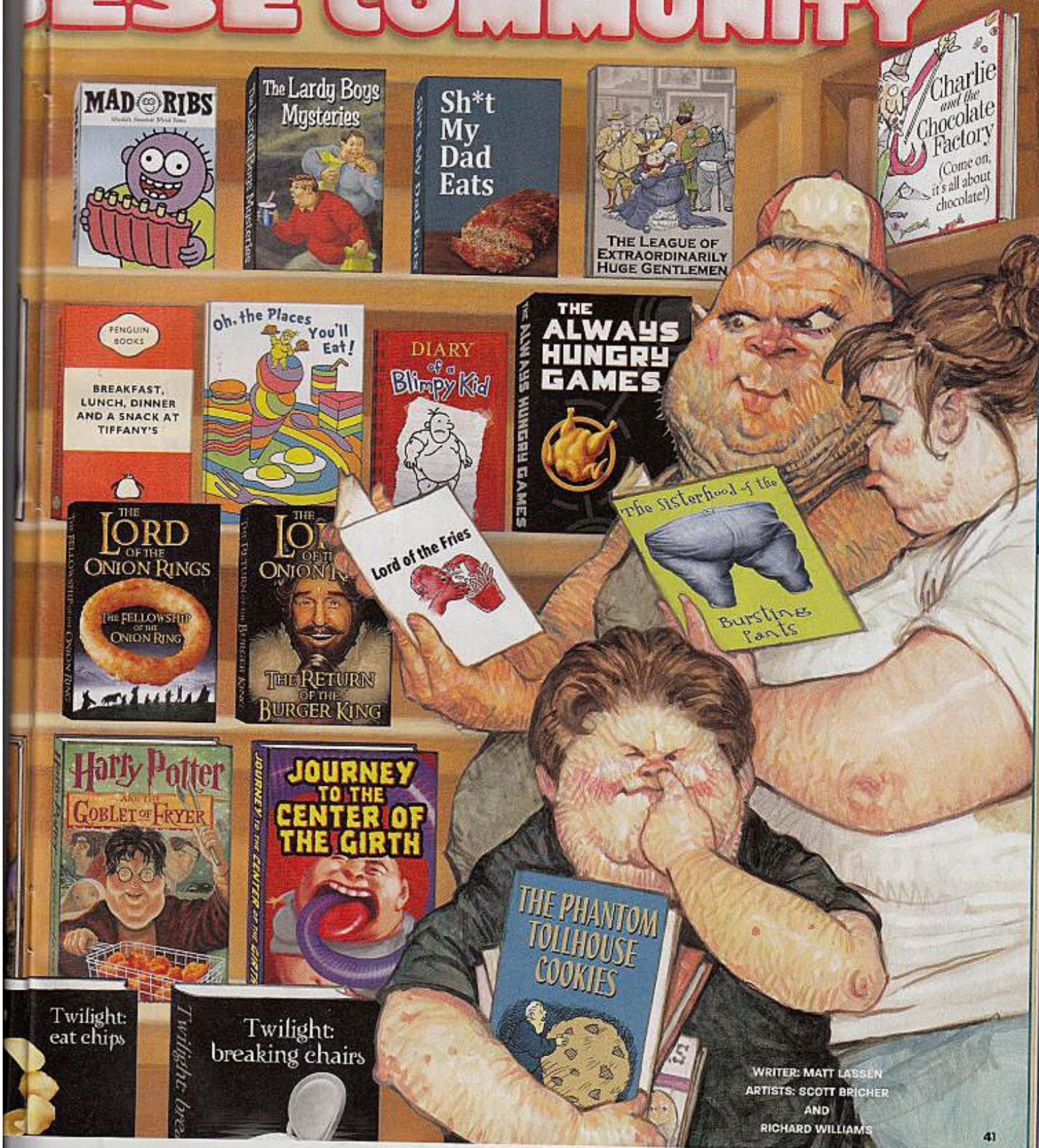
If there's one thing the world knows about Americans, it's that they're fatter than ever. And if there are two things they know, it's that Americans aren't big readers. (We're talking to you, Chubs!)

So, in much the same way that we've learned to combine tacos and Dorito shells, it seems only natural to combine our love of food with our ambivalence towards reading!

BOOKS U.S. OF



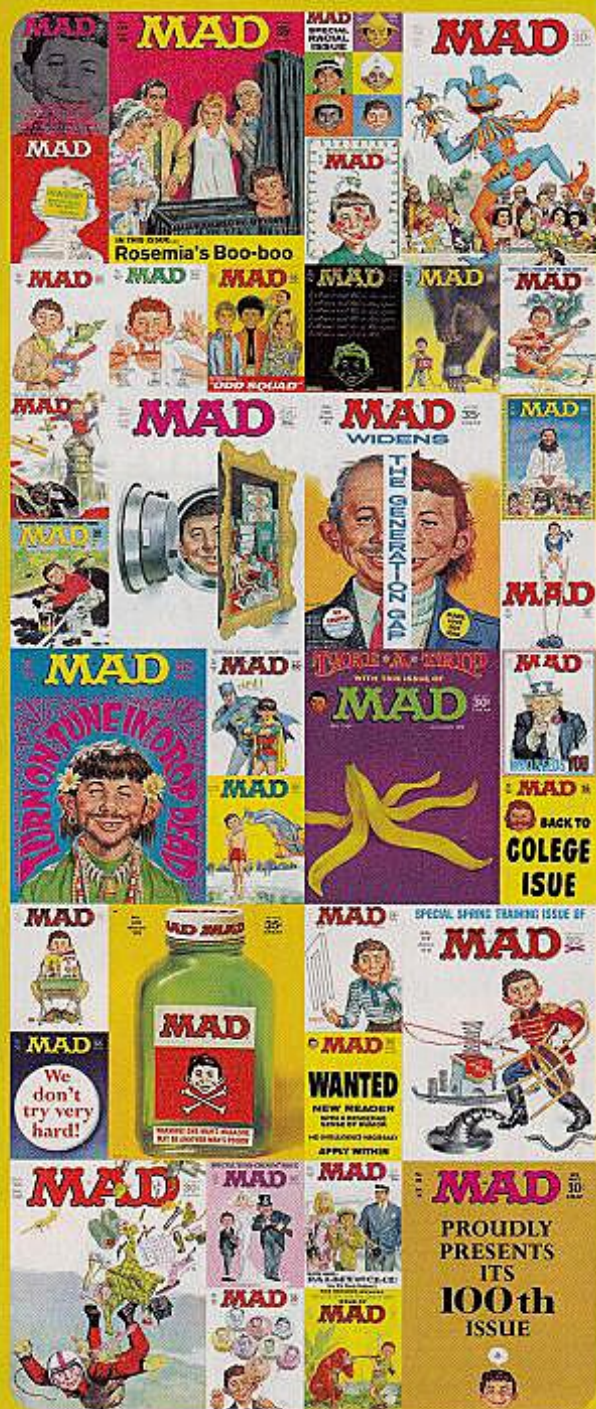
FOR THE GROWING EASE COMMUNITY



WRITER: MATT LASSEN
ARTISTS: SCOTT BRICHER
AND
RICHARD WILLIAMS

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developing a
time machine and
travelling back
to buy the
original issues!)

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DUMB ASSEMBLY REQUIRED DEPT.

LEGO has made a ton of money with videogames based on pop culture characters, all done in the LEGO style — Batman, Harry Potter, The Hobbit, Indiana Jones, Star Wars — the list goes on. In fact, the list goes on longer than you realize — because they've also released a bunch more games that have NOT been successful! However, we've tracked down these duds — and we've even included some gameplay tips (so you can finish playing them as quickly as humanly possible)!

TIPS *and* CHEATS *for* OBSCURE LEGO VIDEO GAMES

LEGO

**AMERICAN
HUSTLE**



It's LEGO layers of lies and double-crosses when FBI agent Richie DiMaso forces con man Irving Rosenfeld and his partner Sydney to work for him. But with more than a dozen unpredictable, untrustworthy characters to unlock and play, there's no telling which of them could be the one to bring their entire world of bricks crashing down.

TIPS

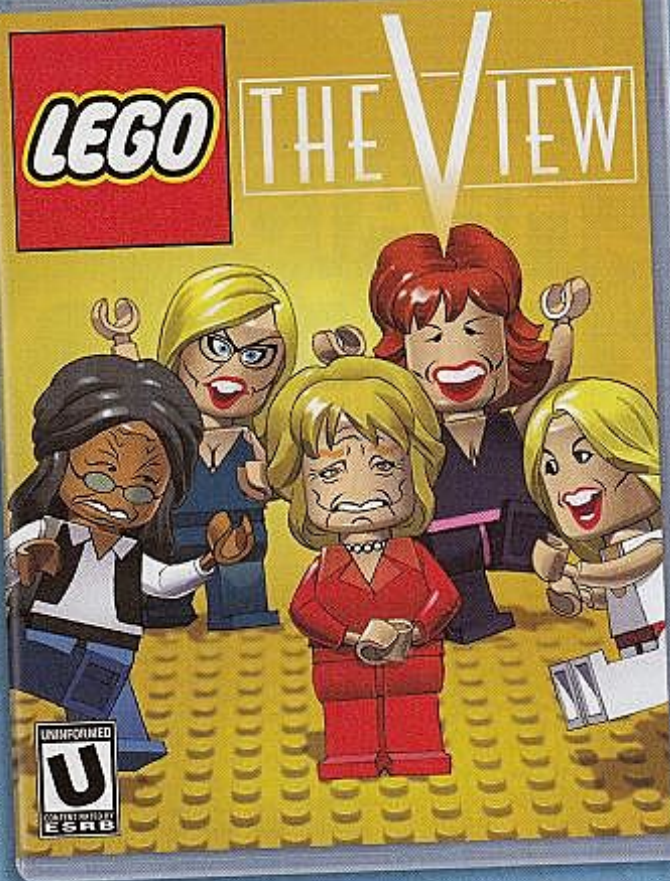
Search Richie DiMaso's office for 24 pink studs. They can be used as rollers to perm his hair.

After Sydney and Irving have completed the "Slow Dance at the Dry Cleaner's" challenge, a \$4.99 Hemming/Alteration special is unlocked.

Enter code "KTNS" at the "Extras" menu to have Rosalyn destroy the microwave oven by shooting an arrow into it.

WRITER: SCOTT MAIKO
ARTIST: HERMANN MEJIA

Background image:
Radub85 | Dreamstime.com



Join the battle against intelligent conversation. Play as one of ten different View personalities from over the years and defeat your co-hosts by overwhelming them through constant interruption or by drowning them out through sheer volume. Wield uninformed opinions and cleverly use the audience's reaction to become the most powerful cackling hen at the table!

TIPS

If you're having trouble defeating Jenny McCarthy in the Autistic Endeavor mission, hit her over the head repeatedly with the Proven Scientific Evidence block until she falls apart.

When trying to destroy Elisabeth Hasselbeck, play first as Barbara Walters and sit and nod patiently until the stamina bar over Hasselbeck is nearly depleted. Then switch to Joy Behar and fire a condescending zinger at her.

Use the jump button to raise Whoopi's eyebrows and gain power from the audience to destroy guest Glenn Beck. If that doesn't work, collect audience-giveaway Danielle Steel books from under seats and press X to throw them at him.

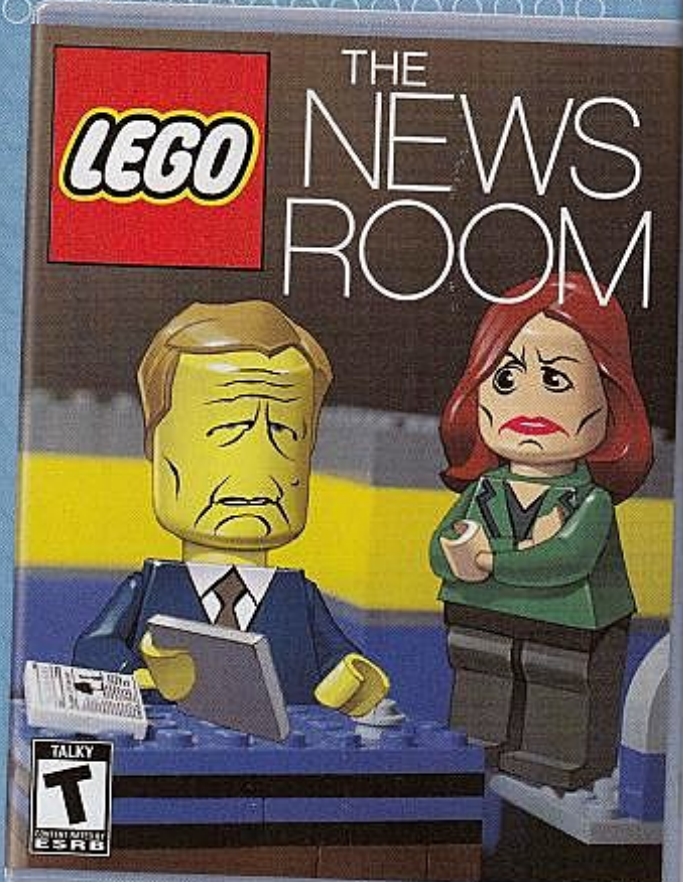
Get ready for thought-provoking, intellectual drama, LEGO-style, with *LEGO The Newsroom!* Featuring all the fast-paced energy, wit and sophistication that viewers have come to expect — and featuring cut scenes with that trademark dense, dense dialogue from the hit HBO series (recycled from *The West Wing* and *Sports Night* and *The Social Network* and *A Few Good Men* and other Aaron Sorkin projects).

TIPS

To force Will to cover a funny piece about a waterskiing bulldog, have Mac enter the control room, then press the "Use" button and select the "Cute Animal Story" icon while Will is on the air.

Be sure to get the purple stud behind the laptop in Jim Harper's office — it helps eliminate pauses in dialogue between characters and increases your Rapid Fire Delivery Rating.

Enter code HFDAD at the "Extras" menu to play as Harry from *Dumb and Dumber* instead of Will McAvoy.



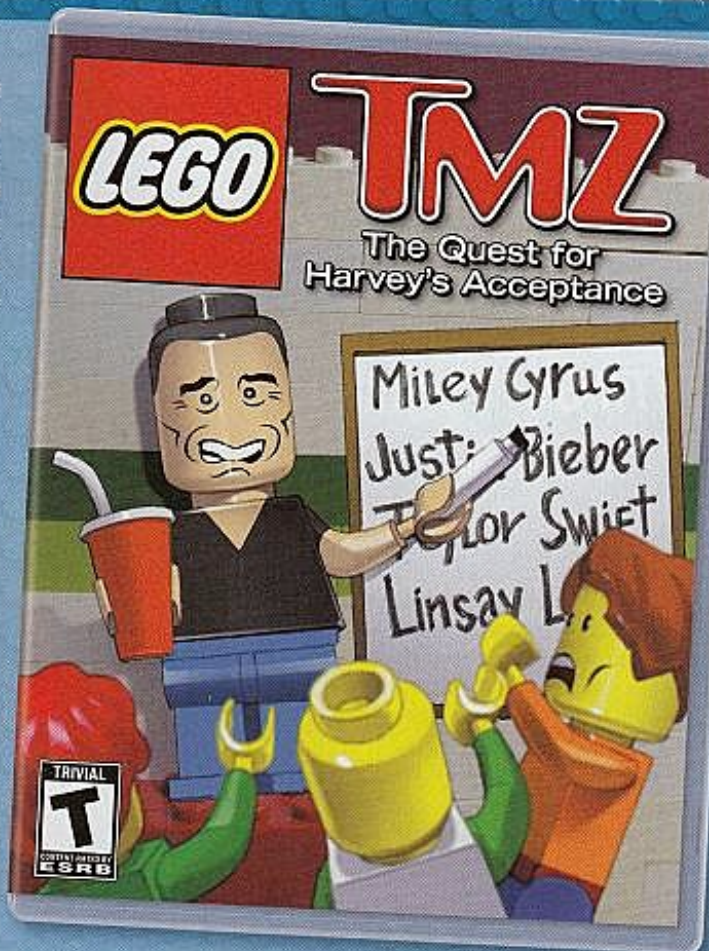
Play as any of two dozen hangers-on and see if you have what it takes to rate a reaction shot from creepy LEGO letch Harvey Levin in the LEGO version of the sleaziest show on TV. Make him laugh, and you're moved out of your cubicle and put front and center in the shot. But be careful! Upstage him and you're out on your LEGO ass, like that douchebag surfer with the long hair!

TIPS

Making Miley Cyrus references is an easy way to run up your score, but remember, your fellow sycophants can add to your joke and steal your points. If this happens, you can usually counteract this with a Taylor Swift quip (use the "Attack" button) timed to a commercial break.

Harvey will reward you with a 10,000 stud bonus if you give him a reason to throw up his arms in mock surprise and show off his old man biceps. Usually something about Justin Bieber will trigger this.

If someone beats you to a punchline and you're unable to one-up them, your best line of defense is to hope that Harvey says something and then laugh hard at it (select "brown-nose" from the menu), no matter how bad it is.



From his pasty English potato face to his hair-trigger temper, all the unpleasantness of Gordon Ramsay is brought to life in distinct LEGO brick style in a game where you play as the vitriolic British bastard or one of his idiot chefs-to-be. Do you have what it takes to be a chef in LEGO Hell's Kitchen? Well, do you, you stupid donkey?

TIPS

You need to collect white studs to assemble a risotto but don't neglect the yellow studs — saffron — if you want to achieve F***ing Brilliant status.

If Gordon tells you to "Get the F*** Out!" while in multi-player mode, head to the dormitory and press the "Use" button to chain-smoke while waiting for the others to join you.

Enter code "FUSSY" in the in-game cheats menu to unlock maître d' JP.



LEGO *New Girl* recreates all the fun of FOX's hit comedy *New Girl* in LEGO form. Meet Jess, the slightly off-the-wall, adorable new girl living in a LEGO loft with three regular guys — regular except for their own hilariously peculiar quirks! Navigate dating and relationship misadventures, career choices and increasingly absurd dialogue for Schmidt.

TIPS

Jess must be wearing her dorky nerd glasses in order to finish "Mission: Adorkable." They can be found in her bedroom closet in the left pocket of her 1950s aqua-green old lady button-down sweater.

In the Completely Unrelated and Uninteresting Subplot Mission, Winston heads to the store to buy some cat food for Furguson. To successfully complete this mission, make Winston head to the store and buy some cat food.

Enter code "ETSY" in the In-game cheats menu to redecorate Jess's room with a totally different set of quirky pictures, retro furniture and slightly offbeat furnishings.



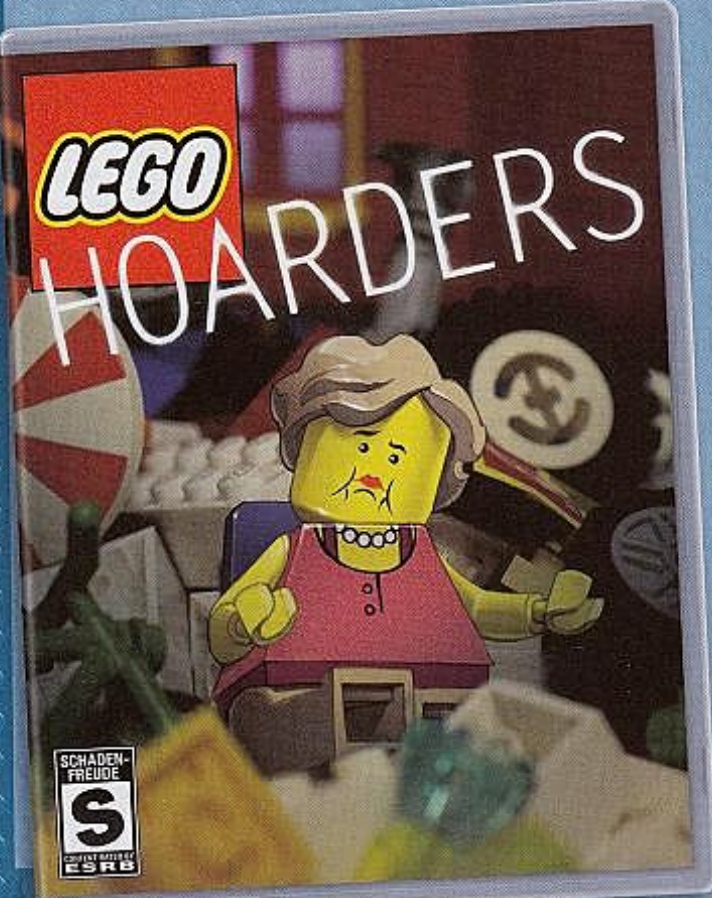
A&E's popular reality show comes to the LEGO gaming world. Fiercely defend your beloved brick hoard from an onslaught of relatives, professional organizers and psychiatrists. Or switch to the other side and see if you have what it takes to get Aunt Louise to finally get rid of all those broken LEGO axles for a dump truck kit that was discontinued twenty years ago.

TIPS

In Concerned Relative mode, use your snow shovel to toss most of the trash into the Dumpster, but grab the last few bits by hand. That's the only way to pick up the wad-of-forgotten-cash brick. But be careful — it looks very similar to the dead mouse/hantavirus brick!

When playing as the Therapist, collect all ten dead cat minikits hidden throughout the house to assemble the Condemned/Order to Vacate paperwork.

In Free Play mode, use a character with super-patience for Day 2 of Cleanup. Once the Hoarder sees her collection of 1970s Dannon yogurt lids go in the Dumpster, she will shut down on the front lawn and gameplay will slow to a crawl (unless you've already found the Ultimatum brick).





THE STRIP CLUB

HOW'S MY DRIVING?



NATHAN COOPER

FATHER
O'FLANNITY'S
HOT TUB
CONFESSIONS
WITH
LENA DUNHAM!!



KEEF!

I'm here to confess THAT THIS season will be my most revealing yet!!



With each subsequent episode, I will be sharing my deepest, most intimate secrets!! Stuff I wouldn't even tweet to my closest pals!!



Aw Contraria, Choirboy Timmy!! It will all be tattooed across MY BARE ASS!!



KEITH KNIGHT

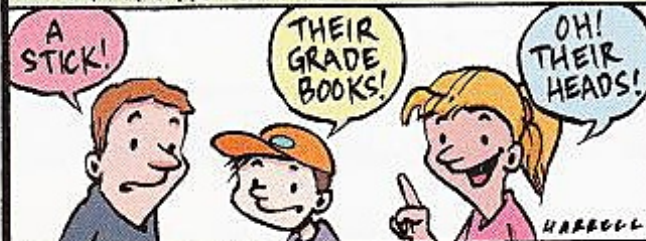


SCOTT NICKEL

PONDERING THE REALLY MEANINGFUL STUFF...

MANY OF YOU WRITE US AND ASK "WHY ARE TEACHERS SO CRUEL? I MEAN, WHAT'S UP THEIR BUTTS?"

WELL, WE'LL TELL YOU. IT'S A LITTLE-KNOWN FACT THAT THEY ARE A SEPARATE SPECIES...AND A GROUCHY PEOPLE.



TODAY, CLASS, I'M GOING TO SIT AND SULLENLY SEETHE WITH RAGE.

AGAIN?



THEY LOOK LIKE US AND WALK AMONG US. LIVING IN THE SHADOWS, THEY SURVIVE ON COFFEE, NICOTINE AND CHALK.

THEIR KIND TEND TO RUN IN PACKS. THEY CONGREGATE IN LARGE PENS, SOMETIMES CALLED "TEACHERS' LOUNGES".

AN APPLE FOR THE TEACHER!

WOULD IT KILLYA TO BRING A PACK OF PALL MALLS?



THIS KID IN THIRD PERIOD... SUCH A BRAT.

SO, TAKE AWAY HIS WILL TO LIVE.

I'D TRY DESTROYING HIS CHILDHOOD WITH PILES OF HOMEWORK. IT CRUSHES THE SPIRIT NICELY.



BUT WHY ARE THEY HERE? WHAT DO THEY WANT FROM US? HOW CAN WE STOP THEM? AND WHAT'S UP WITH THE @#%\$!\$ POP QUIZZES?

FOR NOW, IT'S IMPORTANT THAT WE KEEP AN EYE ON THEM AND STUDY THEIR HABITS. WITH A LITTLE PATIENCE, WE CAN LEARN TO LIVE TOGETHER.

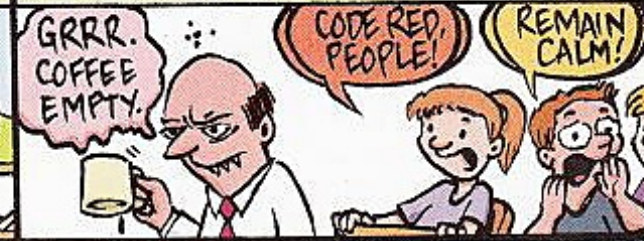
YES! YES!! I FEED UPON YOUR ANGUISH!



GRRR. COFFEE EMPTY.

CODE RED, PEOPLE!

REMAIN CALM!



ONE FOOT IN THE GRAVE

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING HERE? YOU KNOW THAT YOUR FACE MAKES ME WANT TO VOMIT.

YOUR REGULAR DROP-IN NURSE IS SICK AND NOBODY ELSE COULD MAKE IT, GRAMPS.

AND THEY THOUGHT, I GUESS IT'S TIME TO SCRAPE THE BOTTOM OF THE BARREL, AND SO THEY CALLED YOU.

I'LL BET YOU DON'T EVEN REMEMBER WHY THEY SENT YOU.

AS FOR ME, AS SOMEONE WHO'S OLD, I'M **EXPECTED** TO FORGET THINGS. PEOPLE FIND IT ENDEARING... SWEET.

BUT FOR YOU, SO YOUNG, IT CAN ONLY MEAN ONE THING:

JAB!

THAT YOU'RE AN IDIOT.

BUT WHAT CAN ONE EXPECT OF TODAY'S WASTED YOUTH, SMOKING YOUR RAP VIDEOGAME TWERKING TRASH?

SO, SPILL IT. WHAT ARE YOU HERE FOR?

DON'T FORGET, YOU **MUST** MAKE SURE YOUR GRANDFATHER TAKES HIS MEDICINE. HE NEVER REMEMBERS, AND HE COULD **DIE** WITHOUT IT.

YOU KNOW, YOU'RE RIGHT. BEING THAT I'M A TWERKING IDIOT, I CAN'T SEEM TO RECALL

THAT'S OKAY. I'M GLAD YOU'VE COME TO TERMS WITH YOUR IDIOCY.

CHRISTOPHER BALDWIN

I'M AFRAID IT'S VERY SERIOUS

HEY!!! I LIKE YOUR TATTOO!

IT'S REALLY SEXY! I LOVE SEEING TOUGH TATTOOS ON TOUGH GUYS..

OH, HEH, IT'S UH... IT'S NOT ACTUALLY A TATTOO! JUST A BIRTHMARK THAT HAPPENS TO LOOK LIKE A SKULL!

CRAZY, RIGHT?

EWW.

PHIL MCANDREW

**TRIGGER
McBRIDE:
HORSE
COP**



"GOOD COP,
BAD HORSE"

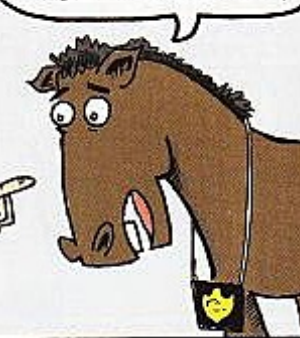
OKAY, THE PERP IS IN INTERROGATION.
YOU TWO ARE GOING TO GIVE HIM
THE "GOOD COP/BAD COP"
ROUTINE.



McBRIDE!
YOU'RE THE
GOOD COP.



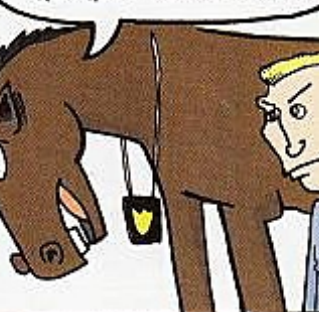
WHAT?! WHY CAN'T
I BE THE BAD COP?



NOT
THIS
AGAIN...



I'M PERFECT FOR BAD
COP! I'VE GOT THE
HEIGHT ADVANTAGE!



McBRIDE, YOU
ARE A GOOD
DETECTIVE, BUT
THIS ISN'T YOUR
STRONG SUIT...



HOW AM I
EVER GOING
TO IMPROVE?!
C'MON CHIEF!!



FINE! BUT WE NEED A CLEAN
CONFESSION! THIS HAS TO HOLD
UP IN COURT! DON'T
OVERDO IT!!



ALRIGHT!
JEEZ!



SO, CAN I GET
YOU A COFFEE, OR-



WHO IS
YOUR
SUPPLIER?



UMM... ANY CHANCE YOU
COULD TELL THE CHIEF THAT
YOU DID THIS?



Which entitled, spoiled "princess" is *your* little white girl most like?

★ American GIRLS



Meet the
★ American GIRLS
dolls! Hannah, Marnie,
Jessa and Shoshanna, each
one as **different** and **unique**
as four friends who live a
culturally homogeneous
lifestyle and come from the
same socioeconomic
background
can be!

WRITER: SCOTT MAIKO
SCULPTURES: KIRA SHAIMANOVA
PHOTOGRAPHY: MANOLO & JACOB, MAKO STUDIOS
BOOK COVER ART: SARAH CHALEK

Meet

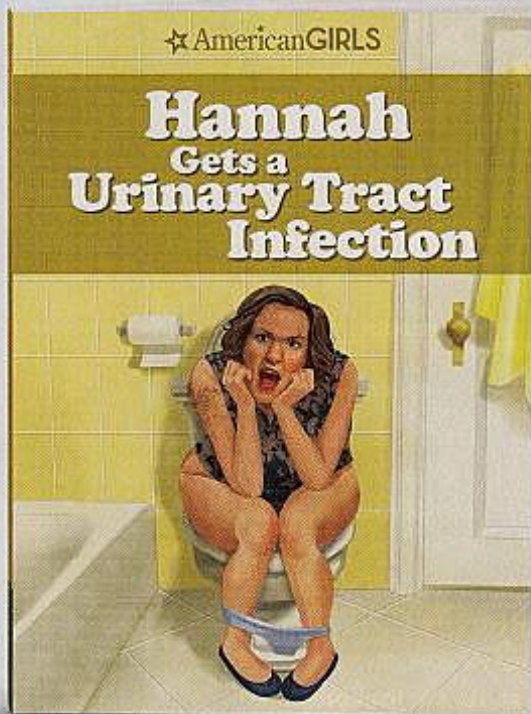
Hannah

Puncture your inner ear.®

**No one loves drama more than aspiring writer
Hannah Horvath! Drama, drama, drama! Bath, bath, bath!**

Is she bathing to relax after a busy day of begging her parents for money, finding things to be offended by and manipulating her friends — or just to rid herself of the stench from banging that creepy Gilligan-lookalike, Adam? Hannah's as full of surprises as she is urinary tract infections (probably from sliding around in that grimy tub!) — like the sudden onset of a never-before-mentioned obsessive-compulsive disorder!

With all that drama and bathing (and itching and stinging) going on, how does she ever find time to write? ...Well, actually, she doesn't!



Also available

**A Hannah Horvath Mystery:
Who Gave Me HPV?**

Hannah comes with her own tub of Cool Whip, an eBook advance, and a lot of weird, ill-fitting clothes that leave precious little to the imagination.

Look!

An HPV wart decal for you and Hannah to share!



Meet *Marnie*

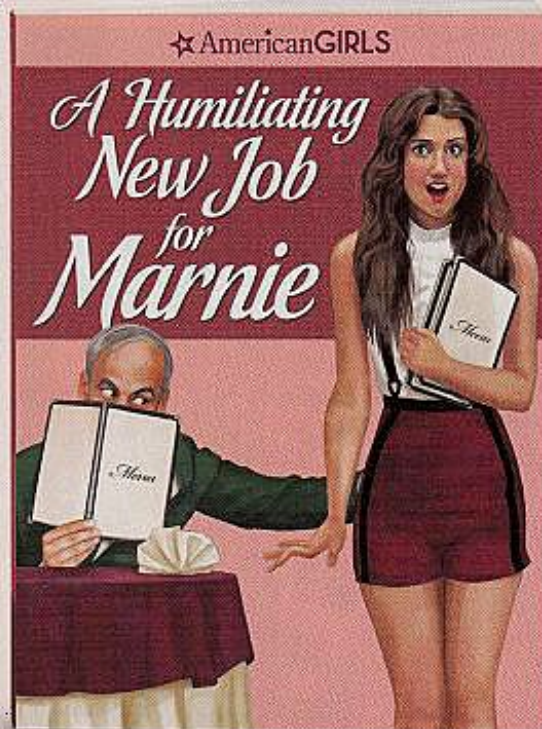
Keep following that guy who dumped you.®

**Even pretty girls have problems!
Just look at fickle, clingy Marnie Michaels!**

She lost her boyfriend! Then she lost her job! But with dogged persistence and adorable neediness, not only has she won back her ex, but she just might find a new career now that she's realized she always secretly wanted...uh...to be a, hmm...how about a *singer*, let's say. Sure, why not?

***There's really nothing more to say about Marnie's story...
But that won't stop her from dissecting her
boyfriend problems ad nauseam in her books!***

Marnie comes with an iPhone that plays an instrumental version of Kanye West's "Stronger" that she can sing along to, a creepy doll she can look at while having sex and a very flimsy résumé she's going to have to dust off again for Season 3 since the actor playing her now-rich boyfriend quit the show.



Also available

***Marnie Has Sex With a Gay Guy
Marnie and the Guy She Thinks Is Her Boyfriend***

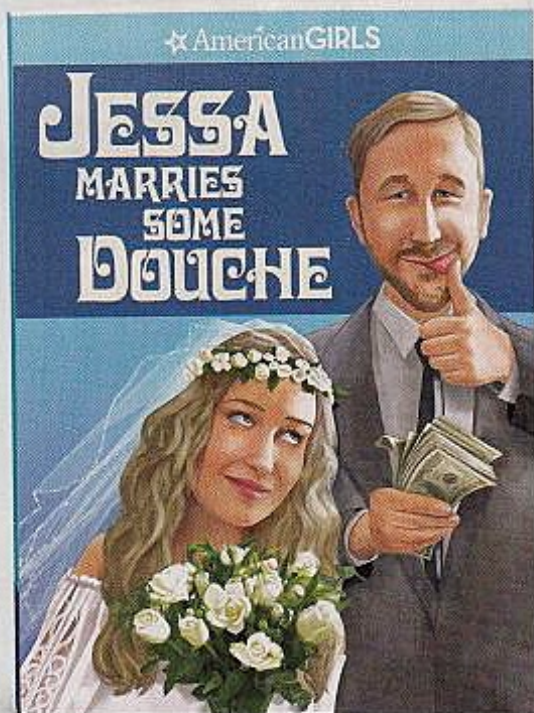
Meet JESSA

"Follow your inner star," hmm, *roight*.®

***Smug, sophisticated world traveler or dirty bohemian?
Vaguely caring friend or wholly insincere brat?!***

Jaded, eccentric Jessa Johansson is all that and more — a riddle wrapped in a maxi dress topped with a ridiculous hat and wearing a toe ring on a filthy foot (because she just seems like the type who'd walk around city streets barefoot under those long dresses). Impetuous and insensitive, one moment she's marrying some douchebag she just met, the next she's explaining her friends' faults to them. Perhaps the biggest mystery surrounding Jessa is: once she disappears again, why the hell will anyone care?

There's more to Jessa's story...But dealing with all her intimacy issues and sarcastic self-defense mechanisms just seems like such an exhausting read.



Also available

Jessa's Snot Rocket for Hannah

Meet Jessa: "The Whore With No Work Ethic"

Jessa comes with a shoplifted bottle of booze, a cell phone she never answers and two little girls she can lose.

Hannah can wear all of Jessa's ridiculous fashions, too! They don't fit her, but that won't stop Hannah!

Bonus!

What better way to attract the attention you desperately want but will actively ignore by wearing a bizarre hat?



Meet Shoshanna

Follow your inner Carrie Bradshaw.®

When you hang out with the likes of self-obsessed Hannah, flighty Jessa and vacuous Marnie, it's quite a feat to come across as the dumb one!

But empty-headed Shoshanna Shapiro makes it look easy with her unbridled love for *Sex and the City*, low-budget cable dating game shows and an accidental crack-smoking incident. Still, Shoshanna's full of surprises — like the fact that despite her ditzy personality, she's somehow a math major at NYU.

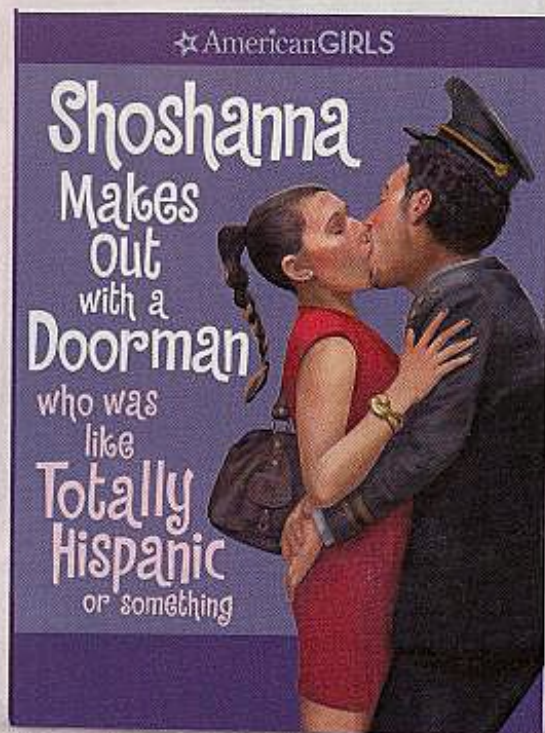
***There's not much more to Shoshanna's story...
Discover how we padded it out in her book.***



Shosh comes complete with a mini *Sex and the City* DVD set, cherry, and a real working crack pipe you can use, too!*



*Crack not included.



Also available

***Shoshanna and the Boyfriend With No Ambition
Ohmygod, Shoshanna Like Totally Misses Her Virginity***



The Best of The Idiotical

MAD'S MILEY CYRUS CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT



ALEX RODRIGUEZ'S 2014 BASEBALL CARD

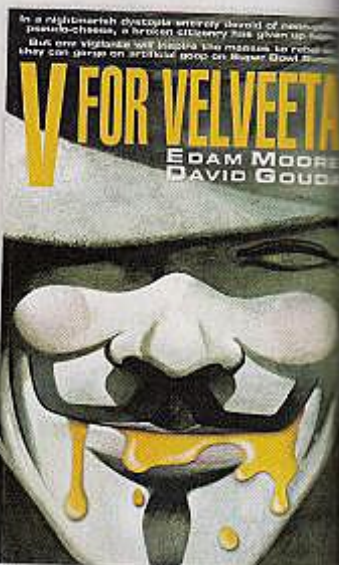
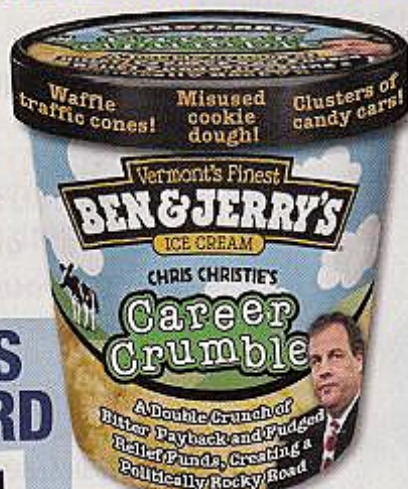


ALEX RODRIGUEZ

NEW STATS FOR 2014!

- Seasons of *Breaking Bad* binge-watched.....4
- Amount of money saved, not having to buy PEDs this year.....\$15,000
- Tostitos eaten, despite having fallen on the floor.....19
- Pizza guys who have awkwardly accepted unwanted autograph.....9
- Prank calls made to Bud Selig.....48

A BEN & JERRY'S FLAVOR WE'LL SOON BE SEEING



OVERHEARD IN LINE TO BUY POT IN COLORADO

So you're saying this will increase state tax revenue AND make Phish tolerable? I'm in!

Finally, a way to purchase marijuana!

Thank God I don't have to fake glaucoma anymore!

I've got a feeling that bakery next door is gonna do a-l-l-i-l-l right!

This will really help with my New Year's resolution — to polish off that box of Mallomars!

I'm still gonna hang out in the high school parking lot at 3 o'clock — that's never gonna change!

This is great — if there's one thing stoners love, it's waiting patiently in a long line!

See you guys same time tomorrow?



New stupidity daily on The Idiotical at madmagazine.com

**WHAT DEADLY
SLEEP AID
HAS FINALLY
BEEN TAKEN OFF
THE MARKET?**

**HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS
MAD FOLD-IN**

For years, anyone struggling with insomnia had access to a solution that was guaranteed to put them to sleep. It wasn't pleasant to take, but it got the job done almost instantly. Sadly, after years of taking this sleep-inducer for granted, it's being taken away. There's nothing for us to do but to take it on the chin and make the best of another late night.



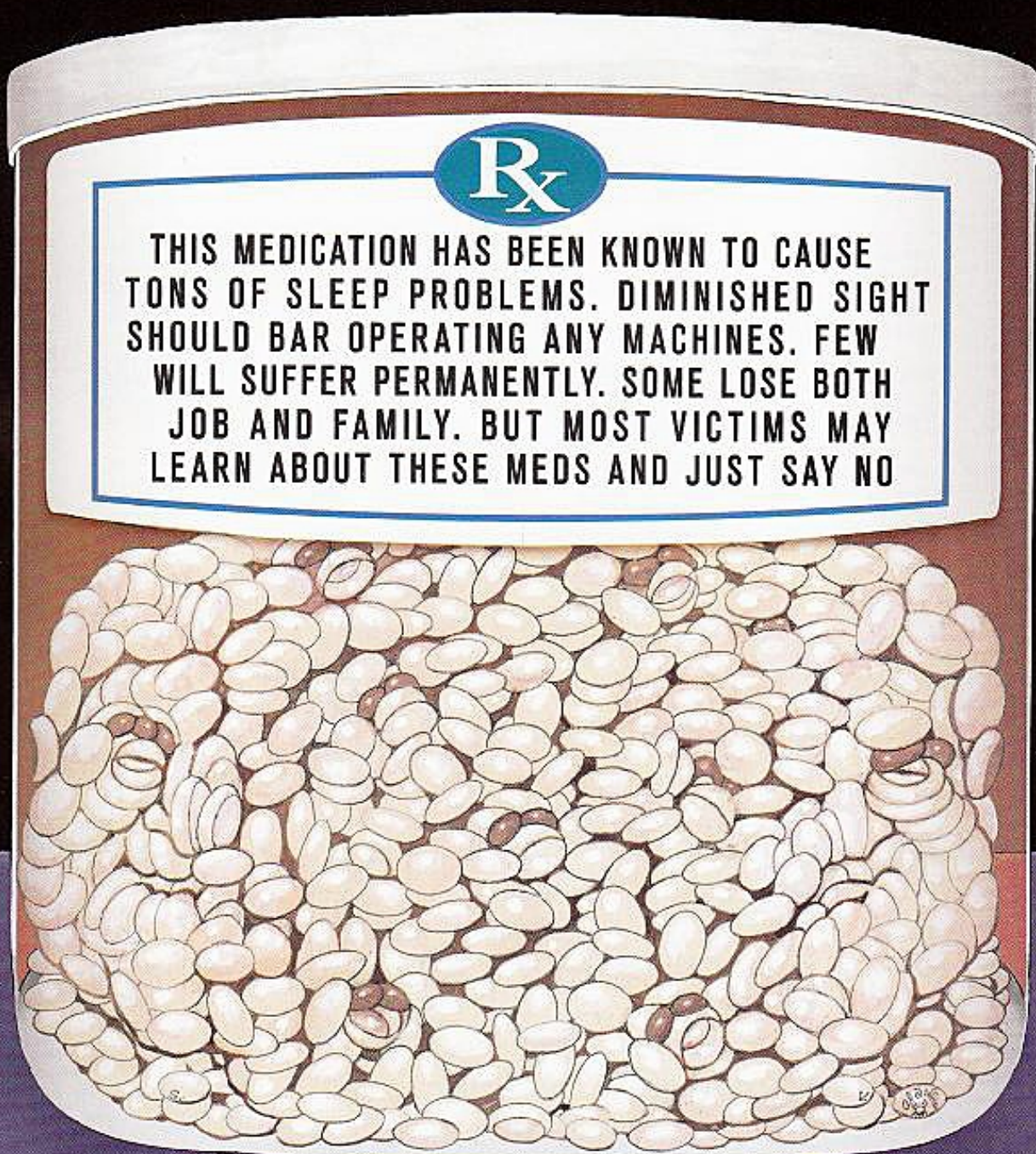
FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!



FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT



FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



WRITER AND ARTIST: AL JAFFEE



THE KUBERT SCHOOL



THE GOOD NEWS
IS WE JUST GOT
ACCEPTED TO THE
KUBERT
SCHOOL!



The Kubert School offers a 3-year residential program in Cartoon-Graphics®. Taught by professionals for aspiring professionals. We are accepting applications now for the 2014-2015 school year.

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GARRY BROWN - The Massive, Iron Patriot
CRAIG CERMAK - Red Team
AMANDA CONNER - Supergirl, Silk Spectre
SHANE DAVIS - Superman: Earth One
JAN DUURSEMA - Star Wars
JARED FLETCHER - DC and Marvel Letterer
MATT HOLLINGSWORTH - Daredevil, Hawkeye
HENRIK JONSSON - Detective Comics, Suicide Squad
ADAM KUBERT - Wolverine, Hulk, Superman, X-Men, Origin II
ANDY KUBERT - Origin, 1602, Flashpoint, Nite Owl, Damian
TOM MANDRAKE - Creeps, Fringe, To Hell You Ride
CHRIS MOONEYHAM - Five Ghosts
NICK NAPOLITANO - VP Manufacturing Admin, DC Comics
BILL PRESING - Rex Steele, Pixar storyboard artist
ERIC SHANOWER - Age of Bronze, Wizard of Oz
RICK VEITCH - Swamp Thing, The Big Lie
LEE WEEKS - Spider-man, Daredevil

ACCSC

KubertSchool.edu

Pencils: Adam Kubert, class of 1984 Inks: Andy Kubert, class of 1984
Colors: Brad Anderson, class of 1995 Production: Pete Carlsson, class of 1996